



MESSAGE TO THE REGIMENT #85: **“The Engineer Blast”**

June, July 2011

A. Overview: The Office of the Chief of Engineers is pleased to forward this 85th 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.



The Chief of Staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:

Major General Edward C. Cardon, Deputy Commanding General (Support), United States Forces-Iraq, OPERATION NEW DAWN, Iraq to Commanding General, 2d Infantry Division, Korea.

The Chief of Staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:

Major General Michael J. Walsh, Commanding General, United States Army Engineer Division, Mississippi Valley, Vicksburg, Mississippi to Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC.



Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta has announced that the President has nominated the following Army Competitive Category brigadier generals for promotion to the rank of major general:

Brigadier General Mark W. Yenter (EN)
Director
Joint Engineering Directorate
United States Forces-Afghanistan

The Chief of Staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:

Colonel Robert D. Carlson, United States Army Reserve, for appointment to the grade of brigadier general and assignment as Commander, 372d Engineer Brigade, Fort Snelling, Minnesota. He is currently serving as Commander (Troop Program Unit), Contingency Response Unit, Headquarters, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC.

The Chief of Staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:

Colonel Tracy A. Thompson, United States Army Reserve, for appointment to the grade of brigadier general and assignment as Commander, 420th Engineer Brigade, Bryan, Texas. He is currently serving as Commander (Troop Program Unit), 300th Sustainment Brigade, Grand Prairie, Texas.



Engineer Brigade cases colors, deploys Story by Pfc. David Huddleston, 18th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs

Col. Paul M. Paolozzi, the commander of the 18th Engineer Brigade and a native of Utica, N.Y. and Command Sgt. Maj. David Clark, the 18th Eng. Bde. Command Sergeant Major and native of Knoxville, Tenn. case the unit colors during its deployment ceremony, June 7 on Tompkins Barracks in Schwetzingen, Germany. The unit deployed for a year-long deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Photo by Pfc. David Huddleston, 18th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs) [More](#)

B. The U.S. Army [Corps of Engineers \(USACE\)](#) provides the following information:

1. **NOAA, USACE, and USGS partner to support water resources management:** USACE, NOAA, and USGS, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to form an innovative partnership of federal agencies to address America's growing water resources challenges. [Find out more >>](#)
2. **Featured Videos :** Corps of Engineers cleans up unexploded ordnance at old military sites.
3. **Afghanistan Engineer District Jobs Available:** [Area OIC](#), [Resident OIC Construction Rep](#), [MRAP Team Member](#)
4. **US Army Corps of Engineers trails designated as National Recreation Trails** U.S. Department of the Interior announced that four U.S. Army Corps of Engineers trails are among 41 trails designated as national recreation trails by DOI.[[Read More](#)] *Published: Jun-08-11*
5. **[The Gulf Region District \(GRD\)](#)** VICTORY BASE COMPLEX, Iraq -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed its final phase of transformation and recorded another chapter in Iraq reconstruction history during a transfer of authority ceremony June 2 between the Gulf Region District and the Middle East District at Camp Wolfe, Victory Base Complex just outside of Baghdad.

The Gulf Region District Web Site has been archived. Please update your bookmarks.

6. **[Afghanistan Engineer District North \(AEN\)](#)**

Date	Title	Author
8/1/2011	AED-North wins best project development team in all of USACE! New	LaDonna Davis
6/26/2011	USACE awards \$64 million contract for Afghanistan National Army Brigade	LaDonna Davis
6/26/2011	USACE awards \$18 million in contracts for Afghanistan National Army	LaDonna Davis
6/21/2011	Bridging the language gap to create a better Afghanistan	LaDonna Davis
6/14/2011	USACE awards \$7 million in contracts for Afghanistan National Security Forces	LaDonna Davis
6/6/2011	The Afghanistan National Army gets support with \$11 million in contracts from USACE	LaDonna Davis

7. [Afghanistan Engineer District South \(AES\)](#)

Date	Title	Author
7/29/2011	Partial completion of apron provides additional capability for U.S. Air Force	Joan Kibler
7/29/2011	USACE contributes to the counternarcotics mission in Afghanistan	Karla Marshall
7/26/2011	Sealed bidding expedites contract awards for AED-South	Joan Kibler
7/26/2011	USACE recognizes employees for meritorious service and significant contributions	Karla Marshall
7/23/2011	USACE creates a new opportunity for joint U.S. military, Afghan police cooperation	Karla Marshall
7/19/2011	New switch center helps DABS improve power from Kajaki Dam power house	Joan Kibler
7/17/2011	Corps' Operations and Maintenance plan helps Afghans help themselves	Karla Marshall
7/13/2011	Perimeter fence construction complete at Shindand Air Base	Karla Marshall
7/13/2011	Groundbreaking ceremony marks milestone at Weesh-Chaman Crossing	Joan Kibler
7/9/2011	Col. Wham becomes new commander of AED-South	Joan Kibler
7/5/2011	USACE recognizes employees for meritorious service and significant contributions	Karla Marshall
7/5/2011	Uniformed police operate from new district headquarters in Sangin Qala	Karla Marshall
7/1/2011	Ceremony marks the completion of an aviation apron extension	Karla Marshall
6/12/2011	USACE recognizes employees for meritorious service and significant contributions	Karla Marshall

8. To view "[The Corps Environment](#)", a quarterly newsletter, you are invited to click on the hyperlink:

C. [The US Army Engineer School \(USAES\)](#) provides the following information:

Farewell Brigadier General Watson



On July 14th, Fort Leonard Wood held a Review and Departure Ceremony for Brig. Gen. Bryan Watson, U.S. Army Engineer School commandant and deputy commanding general, concepts, doctrine and organizations.

During the ceremony Maj. Gen. David Quantock, Maneuver Support Center of Excellence commanding general presented Watson with the Legion of Merit Award.

In addition to providing encouraging remarks to Watson as he prepares for his next assignment to Afghanistan, Quantock highlighted examples of Watson's visionary leadership and planning, leader development, integrity, passion for the business and care for soldiers as credits to his unwavering reputation for getting the job done.

In keeping with tradition, Watson stepped outside of the box as he offered his heartfelt thanks to the tribe of service members, civilians, family and friends whom he has worked with and met during his tenure at Fort Leonard Wood.

"This job was a dream job for me with one exception—this dream became an unexpected reality. I did nothing other than give three things, a small dose of vision, a large dose of passion and occasional perspective to connect the dots—you did the rest," Watson said.

BG Watson served as the U.S. Army Engineer School commandant since April 2009. He will be taking on the responsibilities of director, J-7, engineering, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan.

Col. Fabian Mendoza, USAES assistant commandant, will be the acting commandant until Sept. 21, when Brig. Gen. Mark Yenter is expected to take on the responsibilities of USAES commandant and deputy commanding general concepts, doctrine and organizations. BG Yenter is currently deployed to Afghanistan

Pictures from the ceremony have been posted on the Engineer Regiment's Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/USArmyEngineerRegiment> as well as at the following Flickr site: http://www.flickr.com/photos/enforce_2010/sets/72157627108158973/

(Special thanks to Martha Yoshida, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)

Message from the Deputy Commandant

Update of the BCT Engineer Battalion (BEB) force design Many folks have asked what the status is on this critical initiative for the Regiment. As you know, we've been working this for over two years now and it remains the Commandant's top organizational priority.

The BEB has not been approved by the Army leadership, but it is teed up for a decision as part of the next TAA process. The BEB was briefed to the 4 star ACP forum in March and once again received strong support from the Army's leadership. During the ACP briefing, the VCSA stated "taking the Engineer Battalion out of the BCT was probably the dumbest thing we've done in the past 10 years". The G8 representative stated that while there is an equipment bill, the BEB is easily supportable because most of the bill is in the areas of trucks and radios and the Army has those available to re-distribute. And the Maneuver Center of Excellence has continued to remain a strong partner and advocate for the BEB.

In the TAA 14-18 process, the BEB is linked with several other key decisions regarding Army force structure, the most significant one being the addition of the 3rd maneuver battalion for the HBCTs and IBCTs (note – we have developed new rules of allocation for EAB engineer units that will be used when this case is modeled). Not all of the other decisions are at the same level of staffing as the BEB, but the Army G-3/5/7 has elected to use the TAA process to consolidate these major decisions so that the impacts of all these changes can be assessed and coordinated at once. These force structure changes seem to be the most likely course for the Army at this point. Based on a projected TAA timeline, we expect a final decision on approved force structure in December.

In his final weeks as the 52nd Chief, LTG Van Antwerp addressed the BEB with the Army G3 one last time. LTG Van Antwerp concurred with the strategy of not piecemealing a force structure decision, but also urged the G3, LTG Bolger, to keep pushing the BEB because it's absolutely critical to the Army. The G3's response included "We will close the deal on the BEB. We need it, and we need it done right. We will see to that in Army G-3."

We'll keep the Regiment informed as the situation develops, but for the next few months it will be mostly a matter of modeling the various cases for the TAA to document the requirements followed by the resourcing phases to see what the Army can afford and where we have to take risk.

Personally, I'd like to thank all of the folks who have supported this work over the past few years, and all of the folks who have provided critical comments and thinking to help us develop the best structure for the Army. We recognize that there are some folks who still have concerns with the BEB – especially with regard to the loss of EAB force structure. These are valid concerns and we've tried to address them as well as possible. It's not a perfect solution, but all the analysis and leadership assessments show that it's clearly better than the status quo.

Special kudos to BG Watson on this initiative. For those of you who have been watching, it was a good lesson in senior leadership. From the start, BG Watson identified this as his top priority, he personally engaged with the key stakeholders (inside and outside the Regiment) to gain support, and he has carried this message to the Army's senior leaders at every opportunity. Essayons! Jim Rowan

Message from the Deputy Assistant Commandant (Army Reserve)

Hello to all in the Regiment. It's great to be back on the Regimental net after a year at Carlisle. I now serve as the DAC-AR here at the Engineer School and wanted to let the readership know that I serve as the primary Army Reserve POC for the USAES. It's readily apparent to the readers in the Army Reserve that I serve as their advisor while here at USAES for all schooling, but what may not be apparent is that the relationships developed during those interactions continue as they return to their units. It is the goal of myself and staff (SGM Randy Relyea and MSG James Parry) to continue to cultivate relationships with both students, as well as the units that comprise the Regiment, to coordinate, advocate, and most importantly solve the problems facing Army Reserve engineers. I welcome your contacts.

What is also of great importance is for those members of both the active component as well as the National Guard to feel free to reach out and include both myself and my staff in the dialogue and discussions taking place around our Army and our Regiment. Venues such as the Regimental Sych Meeting, the Engineer Warfighter VTC, and the Engineer Institutional Working Group (EITWG) are but a few of the venues that we could be potentially contributing the Army Reserve voice to. Might I ask that if you are serving in a capacity that lacks the Army Reserve engineer voice in your total Army staffing, to feel free to contact me so that I may be able to assist in bringing our voice to your table. I can be reached at (573) 563 8045 and at adam.roth@us.army.mil. I look forward to serving with all of you.

“Essayons!”

Adam S. Roth
COL, EN
Deputy Assistant Commandant (Army Reserve)

Directorate of Training and Leader Development

The Joint Engineer Operations Course (JEOC)

The JEOC Team in coordination with the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson, Air Force Base, OH successfully completed Joint Engineer Operations Course Class 11-03 from 13-17 June, 2011. The class was attended by a total of 54 students from all services. The class comprised 21-US Army Engineer, 3-US Navy Engineers, 2-US Marine Corps Engineers, 25-US Air Force Engineers, and 3- DoD Civilian.

The team is preparing to conduct JEOC 11-04 at the US Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officers School at Port Hueneme, CA from 15-19 August, 2011. We are currently filling JEOC Class 12-01, hosted by the US Marine Corps Engineer School in November, 2011 and JEOC Class 12-2, hosted by the US Army Engineer School in April, 2012.

JEOC Graduates, as a reminder, the JEOC has been added to the database for military education on ORBs and ERBs. The code is "XCH" which will show as an entry that reads "Joint Engineer Operations". Battalion-level S-1s should now be able to add JEOC to your ORBs/ERBs and send the certificates to iPERMS as supporting documentation.

The course continues to meet the training and education requirements of service engineer from around the world. The JEOC is on schedule to educate over 240 Service engineers in their Joint Staff Engineer roles and responsibilities this training year. In addition to the programmed student load, the JEOC Team is preparing to conduct another JEOC class hosted by US Pacific Command in September, 2011.

The schedule below outlines the four core JEOC Classes for this year.

Schedule:

JEOC 11-04: 15-19 Aug 2011 @ Port Hueneme, CA (CECOS)

JEOC 12-01: 31 Oct-4 Nov 2011 @ Quantico, VA (USMC Engineer School)

JEOC 12-02: 23-27 April 2012 @ Fort Leonard Wood, MO (USA Engineer School)

JEOC 12-03: 25-29 Jun 2012 @ Wright-Patterson, AFB, OH (AFIT)

As a reminder, the Pre-requisite dL phase is open 90 days prior to class start date. Enroll through the Joint Knowledge Online at the Joint Operational Engineer Community of Interest or Mr. Dwayne Boeres at (573) 563-7065, or dwayne.boeres@us.army.mil.

JEOC POC is Shawn Howley, at 573-563-5088, email: shawn-howley@us.army.mil

Counter Explosive Hazards Center



UAV AND HAND HELD DETECTOR TRAINING AT THE COUNTER EXPLOSIVES HAZARDS CENTER (CEHC)

The Counter Explosives Hazards Center, located in Fort Leonard Wood, is now training the PUMA UAV within the R2C2 Course package and conducting training on a variety of Hand Held Detectors for the dismounted soldier. Anyone

interested in this training should contact Mr. Vincent Delaney, CEHC on 573 563 5401 or via e-mail

vincent.delaney@us.army.mil. A complete list of courses is available on the CEHC website:

http://www.wood.army.mil/wood_cms/usaes/2407.shtml

Directorate of Training and Leader Development

Critical Task-Site Selection Board (CTSB)

The U.S. Army Engineer School (USAES), Directorate of Training and Leader Development (DOTLD), will conduct a Critical Task-Site Selection Board (CTSB) for the Combat Engineer and Bridge Crewmember MOSs (12B10, 12B20, 12B30, 12B40, 12C10, 12C20, 12C30 and 12C40) from 15 August 2011 to 19 August 2011 at the Clark Library Conference Room located on the first floor of Building 3202 on Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The USAES requests Subject Matter Expert (SME) support to serve as voting members for this vital event. Each representative must be a qualified and knowledgeable Combat Engineer or Bridge Crewmember Noncommissioned Officer to participate. Personnel selected will review, have discussions, make recommendations for revisions, and vote on a proposed Critical Task List (CTL). The USAES DOTLD will forward the proposed list to the Commandant for approval. The CTL establishes the foundation for what is taught in our institutional training courses from AIT/OSUT to SLC. It would be beneficial, but not required, if representatives have recent operational experience in Operation New Dawn and/or Operation Enduring Freedom.

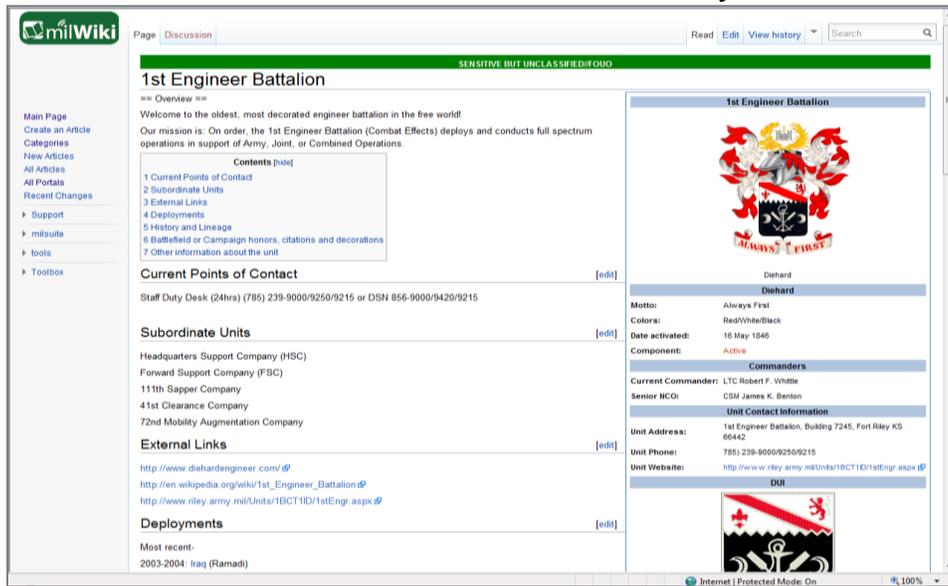
It is recommended that units begin to identify participants for this important event now and lock in travel costs/arrangements before end of years funds are pulled at installation level.

Gerald Jones
CSM (Ret)
Chief, Combat Engineer Branch
USAES/DOTLD/ITD
(573) 563-7785

Regimental Knowledge Management

One of the “do-outs” from the Regimental Knowledge Management discussion group during ENFORCE, was creating an Engineer “rolodex” or SME finder. A wiki solution may be the answer to the Engineer “Rolodex”. Technicians from milWiki have created a unit page template under the category of “Engineer.” Within these unit page templates, are sections to place critical contact information as well as listing the name of the commander, deputy or executive officer, and senior NCO. Several Engineer units have already created their pages. The wiki

solution allows for units, wherever they are, to update their own information in real time. As long as a unit has a connection to the internet, their unit page can be accessed. To check to see if a unit page has been created for your unit, check out <https://www.milsuite.mil/wiki/Category:Engineer>. If one has not been created or the current one needs editing, go ahead and take it for a “test drive.” It’s not as hard as it may seem.



(1st Engineer Battalion's unit page on milWiki)

USAES KM also recommends that individuals fill out their profiles on AKO. It only takes a few minutes to list past military/civilian experience, education, skills, even hobbies. AKO can be used as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) locator if enough AKO users fill out their profiles.

To update an AKO profile, log into AKO and go to “My Account” then “My Profile Page.”

If you have any questions, please contact the USAES Knowledge Management Officer, [Ms. Kristen Jenner](mailto:kristen.jenner@us.army.mil) (email:kristen.jenner@us.army.mil)

USAES on the Network

Engineer Regiment's 236th Birthday Celebration



In conjunction with the U.S. Army's 236th birthday, 1st Engineer Brigade celebrated the Army Engineer Regiment's 236th Birthday with a 236-mile commemorative run that started Tuesday, 14 Jun, the Army's birthday, and concluded Thursday, 16 Jun, the Engineer Regiment's birthday. Engineers ran nonstop, starting with the scheduled FLW Army birthday run at 5:30 a.m., Tuesday. Following the FLW Army birthday run, the U.S. Army Engineer School passed the guidon and colors on to the 1st Engineer Brigade, and supporting units who ran 236 miles in total. This run culminated with the Engineer Regimental run.

USAES held an Engineer Regimental Muster on June 16th, from noon to 4 p.m. All members of the Engineer Regiment were invited to muster at the John B. Mahaffey Museum, Engineer Regimental Room, to sign the Ledger and receive an Engineer Muster Card. There was also an artifact exhibit where the Engineer historian will be on hand to facilitate discussion. Cake was served at 4 p.m. with remarks from Brig. Gen. Bryan Watson, Commandant U.S. Army Engineer School and Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Terrence Murphy. The Commandant cut the cake using a power tool and eye protection.

Pictures and videos of the week's events is posted on the Engineer Regiment's Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/USArmyEngineerRegiment>

Check out the latest version of the Engineer Personnel Development Office's newsletter the "EPDO Nugget."

AKO Users, click the link to download <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/30601311> (helpful hint, log into AKO first before accessing file)

- [Engineer School Public Page](http://www.wood.army.mil/usaes) (<http://www.wood.army.mil/usaes>)
 - U.S. Army Engineer Regiment on [Facebook](#)
 - [USAES Request for Information](#)
 - [Engineer School Knowledge Network \(ESKN\)*](#)
 - [Commandant's Corner \(Forum for Regimental Senior Leaders on milBook\)*](#)
 - [Engineer Battalion Command Forum*](#)
 - [Regimental Command Sergeant Major's ORP \(Forum for the Engineer NCO community on milBook\)](#)
 - [Senior Engineer Warrant Office Group on milBook*](#)
 - Engineer Personnel Development Office [public page](#), [EPDO Group on milBook*](#)
 - USAES Historian [public page](#), [Group on milBook*](#)
- *AKO Authentication required

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT If you have 12Y,12W,12P or 12H Soldiers interested in working in important jobs in the White House Communications Agency, pass them the attached link: <http://www.disa.mil/whca/army.html> and have them contact their assignment manager. We have continuing requirements in the White House in a variety of positions.

12Y TS CLEARANCES MILPER MESSAGE 11-184, IMPLEMENTATION OF PMOS 12Y(GEOSPATIAL ENGINEER) TOP SECRET (TS) SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION(SCI) SECURITY CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT, SOLDIERS SERVING IN THE REGULAR ARMY OR UNDER THE ACTIVE GUARD RESERVE (AGR) TITLE 10 PROGRAMS, ISSUED 10 JUN 11.

The MILPER message outlines guidance for the reclassification and separation requirement for 12Y (Geospatial Engineer) soldiers who have failed to attain a Top Secret (TS) Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) security clearance and Geospatial Engineer soldiers who have had their security clearance denied, revoked, or suspended due to misconduct or derogatory information. This guidance applies to Regular Army (RA), and to those soldiers serving under the Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Title 10 programs.

DA PHOTOS Please help the Regiment by mentoring your senior NCOs to get updated DA photos for their official file. We have many senior NCOs with no picture or an outdated picture with the wrong rank. Soldiers should take a DA photo every five years or each time significant changes occur (promotions, badges, awards)

AGR ACCESSION I need your help with ensuring your Soldiers are aware of the one remaining FY11 DA Accession Board for Active Guard Reserve (AGR) from 15-18 Nov 2011. Packets will be electronically accepted 4 Jun - 31 Oct 2011. Soldiers should be informed of this board as one possible option with regard to continuing to serve in the Army. Please ensure retention NCOs and S1s are aware of the requirements and timeline for this board. The Engineer Regiment has needs across most MOS and grades for qualified applicants. Specific procedures are listed in MILPER Message 11-166.

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

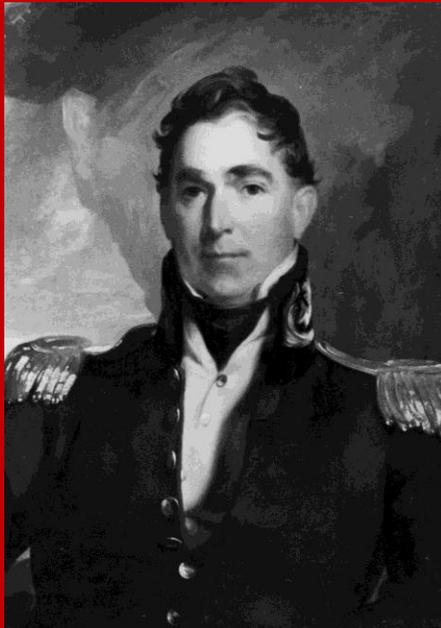
SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF ARMY GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OFFICER POLICY

1. (U) EFFECTIVE 23 JANUARY 2011, THE ACTING CHIEF OF ENGINEERS MAJOR GENERAL MERDITH W.B TEMPLE HAS APPOINTED DR. JOSEPH F. FONTANELLA TO THE POSITION OF ARMY GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OFFICER (GIO) AND DEPUTY TOPOGRAPHER OF THE ARMY.
2. THE ARMY GIO AND DEPUTY TOPOGRAPHER OF THE ARMY SERVES AS THE ARMY'S CENTRAL MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COORDINATION, ASSESSMENT, AND SYNCHRONIZATION OF ALL ARMY POLICIES AND STANDARDIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARMY GEOSPATIAL ENTERPRISE (AGE).
3. (U) HQDA POC: MR. DAVID LILLEY, GEOSPATIAL GOVERNANCE BOARD STAFF, ARMY GEOSPATIAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR TEAM LEAD, COM:703-693-6734; EMAIL: DAVID.LILLEY@CONUS.ARMY.MIL
4. EXPIRATION DATE: NONE.

***** 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. (We are considering doing this event quarterly) 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 to 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 and 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: Engineer History: The 10th Chief of Engineers – COL Charles Gratiot



Colonel Charles Gratiot
Chief Engineer

(May 24, 1828–December 6, 1838)

Charles Gratiot was born August 29, 1786, in St. Louis, Missouri. President Jefferson appointed him cadet in 1804. He graduated from the Military Academy in 1806 and was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers. He became a captain in 1808 and assisted Alexander Macomb in constructing fortifications in Charleston, South Carolina. He was post commander of West Point in 1810–1811. He distinguished himself as General William Henry Harrison's Chief Engineer in the War of 1812. He served as Chief Engineer in the Michigan Territory (1817–1818) and superintending engineer for the construction of Hampton Roads defenses (1819–1828). On May 24, 1828, Gratiot was appointed colonel of engineers, brevet brigadier general, and Chief Engineer. For ten years, he administered an expanding program of river, harbor, road, and fortification construction. He also engaged in a lengthy dispute with War Department officials over benefits. In 1838, President Van Buren dismissed him for failing to repay government funds in his custody. Gratiot became a clerk in the General Land Office and died May 18, 1855, in St. Louis.

History Corner: Gratiot Avenue in St. Louis, Missouri is named after Charles Gratiot, Sr., (1752-1817) an early French merchant in that city. He contributed \$8,000 towards the success of our Revolutionary War and in 1803-1804 assisted Meriwether Lewis in the Lewis and Clark expedition. In gratitude for his patriotism, President Thomas Jefferson gave his son, Charles Gratiot, Jr., an appointment at the new U.S. Military Academy at WestPoint, New York. Charles, Jr., graduated in the class of 1806, the 4th graduating class of the Academy. He was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers. A Fort dedicated to St. Joseph had been located at the headwaters of the St. Clair River in 1685 at the command of Louis XIV. Henri de Tonti who later founded Detroit with Antoine Cadillac was one of those constructing the Fort. It was abandoned only a few years later and the men moved to St. Ignace. During the War of 1812, Colonel Charles Gratiot, Jr., supervised the rebuilding of old Fort St. Joseph and called it "Fort Gratiot." In 1825 he supervised the building of the Fort Gratiot lighthouse, the first lighthouse in Michigan. He also made arrangements to build a military road from Detroit to Fort Gratiot which he named the Gratiot Road. Daniel Corby, the Irish born farmer / civil engineer whose generous financial help saved our parish from insolvency in its early days, was indentured by Colonel Gratiot to construct the Gratiot Road from Detroit to Mount Clemens. Later in the 1800s, Gratiot became a planked toll road. <http://www.saint-joseph-detroit.org/Bulletins/St.%20Joseph%20Detroit%204-11-10.pdf>

[The Gratiot Portraits by Thomas Scully](#)

G. Special Interest: Engineer From the AKO Splash Page



U.S. Army Spc. Michael McGovern, left, tosses a full bag of cement to U.S. Army Pfc. Dustin Mackiewicz, right, atop a cement mixer at a medical clinic construction site in Haiti, May 29, 2011. McGovern and Mackiewicz are assigned to the 716th Engineer Company. Fifty-eight Reserve Soldiers from the 716th teamed up with the Belizean engineers in Haiti to help build two medical clinics, a school, and one latrine facility as part of Task Force Bon Voizen. U.S. Army Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Eugene (Photo by U.S. Army)

Army engineer diver, Specialist Daniel Nagel, (foreground) prepares for a surface supply dive as Spc. Rodrigo Novoa (right) checks the KM-37 Diving Helmet, the afternoon of June 2, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Both Soldiers are assigned to the 74th Engineer Dive Detachment, Special Troops Battalion, 7th Sustainment Brigade. The group of 85 Army engineer divers assigned to the 74th, 86th, 511th, 544th and 569th Engineer Dive Detachments, made the trek to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., from Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. to conduct Deep Blue, an annual deep water diving exercise. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Jo Bridgwater, 7th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs. (Photo by U.S. Army)





A team of combat engineers with the 82nd Airborne Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team cuts through a wire obstacle during a training exercise July 21, 2011, at Fort Bragg, N.C. In spite of the 105-degree heat, the paratroopers trained throughout the day and into the night. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Michael J. MacLeod) (Photo by U.S. Army)

H. Recurring Links: [Engineer Casualties](#) ; [PASSAGES](#) ; [The Engineer Update](#) ; [Military OneSource](#)

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

[The West Point Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering](#) ; [Engineering Knowledge Online](#) ;

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

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

[The West Point Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering: Joint Task Force North](#) ;

[ENGINEER UNIT REGIMENTAL LINKS](#) ; [Maneuver Support Center of Excellence](#)

[Check your entire Official Military Personnel File \(OMPF\)](#)

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](#).

AEA supports the Army Engineer Regiment, with emphasis on **Soldiers** now serving and **Veterans** through:

- [Memorials to Units and Individuals](#)
- [Support to Engineer Fallen and Wounded](#)
- [Performance Excellence Awards for Junior and Senior Personnel](#)
- [Academic Scholarships for Individuals and Family Members](#)
- [Support to the Army Engineer Museum](#)

Popular Downloads

The Evolution of Fort Leonard Wood from 1941 to 2010. Photographic essay that shows how much the "home" for Army Engineers has changed over the years.

The Inseparable Bonds of Engineer Service

Click [here](#), for a 12-page PDF file to learn more about why being an Army Engineer veteran is so special.

Engineer OCS Graduates

Click [here](#) for a 8-page PDF file about Engineer OCS, Fort Belvoir, VA 1966-1967.

Engineer Equipment Development Over the Years

Click [here](#) for a first hand report written by a retired Army Combat Engineer, who went on to a very successful career with Caterpillar, Inc.

Women in Engineering

Click [here](#) to read about women who once served in the military as engineers, and who later went on to successful careers with industry...pathways opening for them by their excellence.

* AEA is now on Facebook -- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Army-Engineer-Association/154530869611>

* See Engineer Regiment NEWS at AEA website - <http://www.armyengineer.com>

Former Gulf Region Division Members of all grades and statuses:

Upon recommendation of MG Eyre and several redesigns I have developed a design for a plaque to be dedicated at the Engineer Museum, in the Engineer Regimental Room along with all of our other great Engineer units present and past.

For about a year now we have been seeking contributions in this endeavor as the cost for this is around \$2000 and thus far we have raised on \$450.00.

For the plaque to become qualified for recognition, tax exempt contributions to the AEA must be made in the name of GRD totaling \$2000 or more until the required amount (\$2000) is obtained. This amount may be made by an individual, or through the accumulated contributions of several individuals in varying amounts. These contributed funds are used to administer the program and to pay for manufacture of the plaque.

Checks, made payable to the AEA with a notation on the check "GRD Unit Recognition Plaque" to which the funds will be applied may be sent individually to:

AEA Executive Office
P.O. Box 30260
Alexandria, VA 22310-8260
Phone: 703-428-6049
Fax: 703-428-6043
Email: XD@armyengineer.com.

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

a. Individual Memberships

SAME Individual Memberships offer professionals in the A/E/C field the opportunity to develop important

business contacts through [national and regional events](#), and build those relationships further through our worldwide network of [Posts](#).

Stay on top of developments in the A/E/C field through our industry-leading publication, [The Military Engineer](#) magazine, where you'll learn important information from the field about everything from contracting and design to environment and emerging technologies.



Continue your professional education at our many special events, among them the annual [Federal Programs Briefings](#) and the [Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo](#).

Individual Member Applications: [Join Online!](#)

To download Individual Member applications as a PDF to be completed and mailed or faxed, please select from the following:

- [Uniformed Services](#)--active, guard, reserve and civilians employed by a uniformed service [PDF]
- [Public and Private Sectors](#)--individuals not employed by DOD, USCG or USPHS, including Young Members [PDF]
- [Student Member](#) [PDF]
- [Retired Member](#) [PDF]
- [Life Member](#) [PDF]

b. "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.

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. [Army Engineer Spouses' Club:](#)

The Army Engineer Spouses' Club welcomes membership from *spouses and family members over 18 years* of age of the following U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employees: military grades E-7 and above and civilian grades GS-07 and above, whether active, retired or deceased; and with approval of the Executive Board, other persons who have been associated with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Membership Benefits: Becoming a member of the only worldwide Engineer network for those other than Active Duty Military, you will receive a 10% discount at the Castle Boutique -our online Engineer boutique- receive the monthly newsletter- the Castle Gram- be able to join others for monthly outings in the DC area & receive the yearly Red Book -Castle Directory

V/R

William R. Arthur

William R. Arthur

Executive Officer

Office of the Chief of Engineers

Work: (703) 693-4404

Fax 693-4410

BB: (703)-459-5365

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Former "Messages to the Regiment"

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[22](#), [21](#), [20](#), [19](#), [18](#), [17](#) 1-16 are available on AKO

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