



**MESSAGE TO THE REGIMENT #89:**  
**“The Engineer Blast”**

February, 2012

**A. Overview:** The Office of the Chief of Engineers is pleased to forward this 89th 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.



***Tribute to Major General Jeffrey J. Dorko***      **Sen. Carl Levin**

Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to MG Jeffrey J. Dorko, deputy commanding general for military and international operations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who is retiring from Active Duty service on Friday, February 10, 2012. As we reflect on the career of this exemplary public servant, I express appreciation for his distinguished and selfless service on behalf of a grateful nation. It is his sacrifice, along with the sacrifices of countless others in uniform around the world, which helps to keep our Nation strong and secure. [More](#)

The following Army National Guard General Officers have been confirmed by the Senate for Federal recognition in the next higher grade.



**BG Alan S. Dorhrman**  
Assistant Adjutant General - Army, North Dakota National Guard



**BG Peter C. Hinz**  
Assistant Adjutant General - Army, Maryland National Guard



**MG Timothy Reisch (to MG)**  
The Adjutant General South Dakota



**BG Steven G. Sanders**  
Assistant Division Commander, 36th Infantry Division - Texas Army National Guard



**BG James H. Trogdon III**  
Assistant Adjutant General - Army, North Carolina National Guard

**To Brigadier General**

Colonel Patricia M. Anslow

Colonel William E. Bartheld

Colonel Mark J. Michie



## **New Command Sergeant Major Selected for the United States Army Corps of Engineers**

Command Sergeant Major Karl Groninger, 579th Engineer Detachment (FEST M) has been selected as the next United States Army Corps of Engineer's Command Sergeant Major.

CSM Groninger was born in Newark, N.J. and raised in Toms River, N.J. He enlisted into the Army in August 1982 and attended One Station Unit Training (OSUT) at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Upon completion of OSUT, he was awarded the Military Occupational Skill of 12B1O (Combat Engineer). In 1984, he attended the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center and was reclassified as a 00B1O (Diver). [More](#)

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

1. **Contingency Engineer Management Course:** At the forefront of preparing military and civilian engineer leaders from the entire Joint engineer family for deployment into the USCENTCOM AOR, is the Contingency Engineer Management Course, or CEMC. Now in its' third full year, CEMC has prepared over 2100 engineer personnel for the demanding environment presented by the US Central Command Area of Responsibility.

CEMC provides the 'must have' knowledge on engineering, procurement, construction management, master planning, environmental concerns, contingency acquisition, standard contingency designs, CERP and PRTs, JFUB planning and execution, the engineer capacity in theater toolkit and the various engineer reachback systems in place today. CEMC is jointly sponsored and operated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and US Army Central – and capitalizes on the synergy of having experienced USACE civilians and seasoned military engineer personnel from all services combined into a single setting. The class is centrally funded by USACE and USARCENT, so there is no cost to the student other than travel and associated TDY. If you're an engineer headed to, or planning in support of operations in the USCENTCOM AOR, CEMC is highly recommended. Upcoming FY-12 CEMC classes are:

9-12 Apr 12 in Mobile, AL.  
23-26 Jul 12 in Mobile, AL.  
10-13 Sep 12 in Mobile, AL.

You can find additional information and register for any of the upcoming classes at the following URL: <https://eportal.usace.army.mil/sites/RSC/default.aspx>

The CEMC POCs are:

Mr. Chip Marin, USACE LNO to USARCENT, [albert.marin@arcent.army.mil](mailto:albert.marin@arcent.army.mil); 803-885-8219; DSN 965-7542.

SFC Ryan Keitt, USARCENT Engineer Staff; [ryan.keitt@arcent.army.mil](mailto:ryan.keitt@arcent.army.mil); 803-885-8191.

2. [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers workers collect and distribute winter clothes to Kabul orphans.](#) By Paul Giblin, Afghanistan Engineer District-North. KABUL, Afghanistan -- Eight U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employees distributed two dozen boxes of donated jackets, hats, gloves and other winter clothes to a

large orphanage Jan. 14, a day when heavy snow fell and the temperature reached 32 degrees in the Afghan capital. [More](#)

3. The [412<sup>th</sup> Theater Engineer Command](#) offers the following: [Facebook](#), [412th Engineer Association](#),

4. The [416<sup>th</sup> Theater Engineer Command](#) offers the following: [Bridge Magazine](#), [Facebook](#), [Flicker](#)

5. [Afghanistan Engineer District North \(AEN\)](#). [Freedom Builder](#)

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

Date	Title	Author
3/5/2012	<a href="#">Army Corps turns over Afghan Uniform Police District Headquarters in Injil</a>	Michael Beeman
3/2/2012	<a href="#">Border Police have a new facility at Chah Sangar</a>	Karla Marshall
2/27/2012	<a href="#">Mathew Walden is Afghanistan Engineer District-South's Bulldog of the Week</a>	Dave Melancon
2/27/2012	<a href="#">Kohsan Uniform Police have a new facility</a>	Karla Marshall
2/23/2012	<a href="#">ANA brigade complex proceeding ahead of schedule</a>	Dave Melancon
2/23/2012	<a href="#">Mardi Gras Afghanistan Engineer District-South style</a>	Karla Marshall
2/12/2012	<a href="#">Two commanders at the Afghanistan Engineer District-South?</a>	Karla Marshall
2/6/2012	<a href="#">Corps of Engineers completes major section of Route Bear highway</a>	Michael Beeman
2/6/2012	<a href="#">USACE continued contracting and construction momentum in January</a>	Karla Marshall
2/1/2012	<a href="#">Ground breaks for new hospital in Shindand</a>	Karla Marshall
2/6/2012	<a href="#">On the border</a>	Mark Ray
2/1/2012	<a href="#">USACE engineer makes a difference in Afghanistan</a>	Karla Marshall

7. 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:

### **MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT**

Commanders: Thanks for your continued efforts in training and developing our engineer Soldiers. I am writing asking that you help me spread the word to your subordinates about the Army Career Tracker (ACT) website (<https://actnow.army.mil>) and how it can be used to assist Soldiers and their leaders/mentors in developing well-thought out career plans. At the following link:

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/35169641> you will find a slideshow with its speaker notes providing a quick tutorial on the functionality of this site. ACT is an integral part of the Army Learning Concept 2015 and providing Soldiers and their leaders/mentors a collaborative way to access relevant professional development information and provide guidance/counsel on a prudent career path. Specifically, what I need each of you to do is:

1. Ensure command support for this ACT program by announcing it to all of your subordinates.
2. Have them log into the ACT website. (<https://actnow.army.mil>)
3. Have them select their leader and mentors.
4. Take the website for a test drive to see its features/functionality.
5. Complete the ACT evaluation (tab in upper right hand corner) to let us know the features/functionality that you like and things that you want added or changed.

I thank you for all that you do in shaping our next generation of Engineer Soldiers and Leaders.

ESSAYONS! DD

## **ENFORCE Update:**



### **Registration is open!**

The ENFORCE registration site is open and ready for business. Register online by navigating to the following link: [https://www.wood.army.mil/enforce\\_2012](https://www.wood.army.mil/enforce_2012)  
Online registration is open until **30 March 2012**.

### **Call for Photographs**

USAES is looking for high resolution photographs taken in the last 12 months of Engineers in action. Photographs will be used to create a video that highlights the outstanding work done by the Regiment and will be shown throughout ENFORCE

Units may submit their photographs by uploading them to our AKO knowledge center at the following link: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/files/35031509> . Submissions will be accepted through 22 March 2012. Questions or difficulties with the site contact Ms. Kristen Jenner, KMO Engineer School, phone 573.563.5069 or email: [kristen.jenner@us.army.mil](mailto:kristen.jenner@us.army.mil)

## **The History of the Engineers in Operation Iraqi Freedom:**

The leadership of the Regiment has decided to develop a history of the Engineers in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The concept is a two-volume history: one book dealing with Engineer operations in support of combat operations; and the other book dealing with the efforts of USACE and GRD in support of coalition forces and the reconstruction of Iraq. These are exciting projects developed simultaneously by the Engineer School History Office and the Corps of Engineers History Office.

The objective is to document the accomplishments of the Regiment and tell the story of those Engineers who served, their great sacrifices, and their many accomplishments in support of a people and culture on the other side of the globe. The audience for this history will present Engineers, their families, future Engineers, and the general public. Few people outside of the Regiment, Branch, and Corps understand the significant roles played by the Engineers in OIF.

Two major data calls will be made in the coming months. One collection effort will call for Engineers to send copies of official records, such as annual reports, after action reviews, photographs, briefs, etc., from their deployments to Iraq since 2003. And, the second data call will be for personal experience papers of Engineers of all ranks that will add individual stories about OIF. We are developing guidance for both of these data collections, and we will circulate that guidance in the near future.

This is a great opportunity to tell the Engineer story! We want to capture and preserve the broadest scope of the history of Engineers in OIF sooner, rather than later.

Essays!

Dr. Bianka Adams, Corps of Engineers Historian, [bianka.j.adams@us.army.mil](mailto:bianka.j.adams@us.army.mil)

Dr. David Ulbrich, Engineer School Historian, [david.ulbrich@us.army.mil](mailto:david.ulbrich@us.army.mil)

## **New Historian Announced**

It is my honor to announce that I have selected Dr. David Ulbrich as the U.S. Army Engineer School's Historian. Dr. Ulbrich has been with the Engineer School for over a year serving as the assistant to Dr. Larry Roberts who retired in December of last year. He has already proven himself as an outstanding student of history who is passionate about inculcating the ideal that we must use our history to help us tackle the current and future challenges as Army Engineers and leaders of our great nation.

Dr. Ulbrich brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position and we are fortunate to have him on our team.

Duke DeLuca, Brigadier General, USA, 94th Commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School

## **New on the Engineer School Knowledge Network ( ESKN)**

### **Professional Engineer License Information**

The Directorate of Instruction has created a folder on the Engineer School Knowledge Network (ESKN) site with valuable information in obtaining Professional Engineer licenses. Direct link to folder:

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/files/34961461>

Please encourage our young officers to use this site to help them prep for their FE and PE exams. There's an info paper, presentation on requirements for the PE, example duty descriptions that convert military assignments to more "civilianized" lingo for their applications, references, AARs and some other good stuff.

If you have anything to contribute to it, but possibly don't have time to upload, filter, etc. you can just send files directly to me @ [paul.huszar@us.army.mil](mailto:paul.huszar@us.army.mil). I also welcome your feedback and input to make this better.

LTC Paul Huszar, P.E.  
Director of Instruction

### **ESKN Has Gone Mobile!**

The Engineer School Knowledge Network (ESKN) page has gone mobile! By request, USAES has made a mobile version of their ESKN site, ESKNm. The mobile site contains much of the information on the ESKN desktop site, without the links to FOUO information.

Because ESKN is an AKO site, there are a few extra steps required in order to view the site on your mobile device. First you must make the mobile page a favorite on AKO. To do that, go to ESKNm on your desktop/laptop computer <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/668183> and click the "Add to favorite's link." On your mobile device, open the AKO page <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/login/welcome.html>. Enter your username and password and answer your KBAs. You will then see a page that has a link to favorites, click on "pages" and then "ESKNm."

On ESKNm you can review Engineer Regiment announcements, FAQs, submit an RFI, even connect to Army Career Tracker!

Please take the site for a test drive and provide your feedback in the feedback section on the page.

### **USAES on the Network**

- [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, \*\*DEERS authentication required

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

1. As Phase II of the Army's FY12 retention plan has been implemented 1 March, I wanted to encourage leaders to advocate the use of the old standard tools to evaluate and shape performance even in this new retention environment. Active use of Bars to Re-enlistment and complete counseling packets will ease transition in the new developing lean retention environment. Specifics of the new standards and methodologies for retention during Phase II have been disseminated through your Retention team. If you have not received an information briefing and would like one, please contact SGM Jalomo or me.

2. I need your help in continuing to identify and mentor your outstanding NCO leaders toward jobs as instructors @ the Engineer School, Observer/Controllers @ our Army's CTCs or AC/RC and Drill Sergeants. All of these critical jobs shape the Engineer Regiment and posture us for success now and in the future. My team welcomes input from All Engineer Leaders as you assist us in properly professionally developing your Soldiers to meet the diverse needs of our Army.

3. The Regiment still has around 110 12Y AC Soldiers that still have not obtained a TS-SCI clearance. Please assist us in offering these Soldiers the resources to submit their ESPQ packages so that they can become MOS qualified. Many of the remaining Soldiers are resident in our BCT Geospatial teams and I would ask our Engineer leaders to assist in highlighting this challenge to the BCT leadership so those Soldiers can provide the full range of support to each BCT GEOINT Cell. ARNG and USAR 12Y Soldiers have until 1 Oct 2012 to obtain their TS/SCI clearances IAW MILPER MESSAGE 12-049

4. I need your help with ensuring your Soldiers are aware of the next DA Accession Board for Active Guard Reserve (AGR) from 30 Apr - 4 May 12. Packets will be electronically accepted until 31 Mar 2012. Soldiers should be informed of this board as one possible option with regard to continuing to serve in the Army. Please ensure your retention NCO and your S1 are aware of the requirements and timeline for this board. The Engineer Regiment has needs across most MOS and grades for qualified applicants. Here is a link from the HRC website that walks you through the application procedures:

<https://www.hrc.army.mil/enlisted/agr%20application%20procedures>

Applicants for the AGR program will have their records reviewed by a screening panel convened at the US Army Human Resources Command @ Fort Knox. The purpose of the panel is to select the best qualified candidates for the AGR program.

For your information, HRC has implemented the following eligibility and procedures:

A. Only soldiers in the rank of SPC (E4) through MSG (E8) are eligible.

B. At the time of application, soldiers must be an active member of a USAR Troop Program Unit, an Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA), or Regular Army soldier. Soldiers assigned to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) are no longer eligible and will not be considered for entry into the AGR program unless they are currently mobilized or serving on some other active duty order.

C. Soldiers must be administered and have a passing score on their APFT within 180 days of submission of application to HRC. If selected for assignment, soldiers must be administered and pass an APFT within 90 days from report date.

D. Soldiers must possess, at a minimum, a secret or interim secret clearance to apply for the program. Soldiers must have been awarded a final secret or higher clearance prior to accession into the AGR program.

E. Soldiers cannot have a permanent profile which precludes worldwide deployment or assignment. Additionally, soldiers will not be processed for accession with a temporary profile.

F. Soldiers in the rank of SPC must be a graduate of Warrior Leaders Course. Noncommissioned officers in the rank of SGT-SFC must be a graduate of the requisite NCOES for their rank.

Those interested must submit applications online through [www.hrc.army.mil](http://www.hrc.army.mil) . Once at the site, select 'MY RECORDS' then 'TOOLS' or apply through the knowledge section on the AKO website. Hard copy applications will no longer be accepted at HRC; mailed packets will be returned without action.

Thanks for your help with this effort.

LTC Ben Bigelow  
Chief, Engineer Enlisted Branch

U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND  
ATTN: AHRC-EPB-E  
1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVENUE  
FORT KNOX, KY 40122-5201

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

SUBJECT: [Army Directive 2012-06 \(Centralized Selection List- Tour Length Policy for Command and Key Billets\)](#)

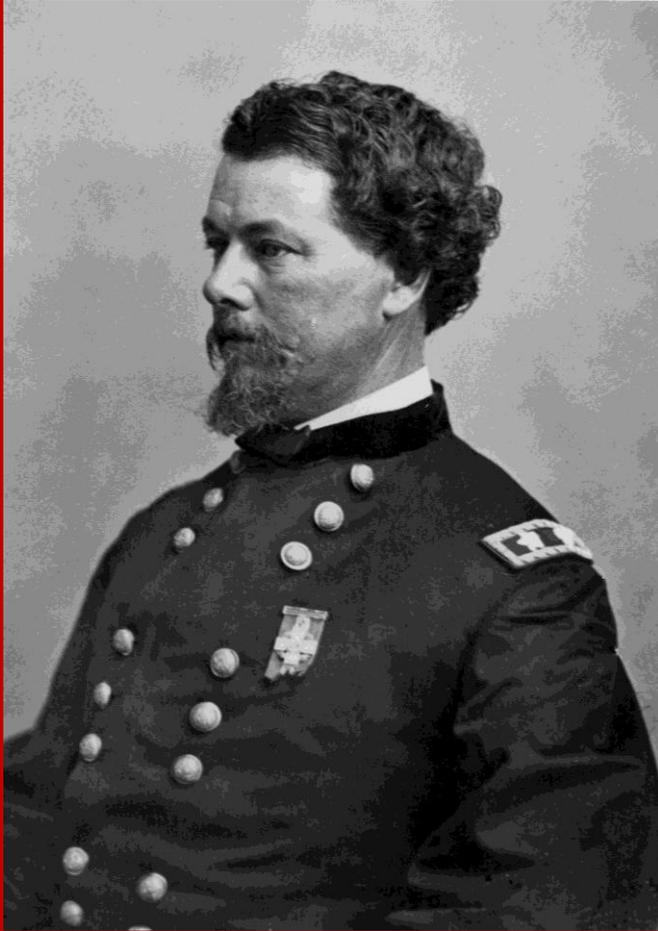
1. This directive changes Army policy for tour lengths for centralized selection list (CSL) command and key billets. The adjustment is made in an effort to increase broadening experiences and aid in developing officers capable of effectively operating in Joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational environments. This directive applies to commands and key billets in Army organizational elements in the Army Competitive Category and the Army Medical Department Category. It does not apply to commands that have established 36- to 48-month tour lengths or to Army Acquisition Corps commands and key billets.
2. Effective immediately. CSL command and key billet tours for lieutenant colonels and colonels will be 24 months with a minimum of 18 months. Commanders who have completed 18 or more months of command as of 30 days before the unit's mission readiness exercise or culminating predeployment exercise will relinquish command. Officers who surpass 24 months because of deployment will relinquish command 30 to 90 days after redeployment.
3. The Office of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-I is the proponent for this policy and will incorporate the guidance in this directive in the next revision of Army Regulation 600-20 (Army Command Policy).

**\*\*\* 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 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.

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## F: Engineer History: The 14th Chief of Engineers – Brigadier General Horatio Gouverneur Wright



### Brigadier General Horatio Gouverneur Wright

*Chief of Engineers*

(June 30, 1879–March 6, 1884)

Born March 6, 1820, in Clinton, Connecticut, Horatio Wright graduated second in the Military Academy Class of 1841 and was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers. He superintended construction at Fort Jefferson at Dry Tortugas, 70 miles west of Key West, Florida, 1846–1856. While assistant to the Chief Engineer of the Army, 1856–1861, he was a member of boards to study iron carriages for seacoast guns and the adaptability of the 15-inch gun for ordnance. He cowrote *Report on Fabrication of Iron for Defenses*. From Chief Engineer of a division at the first Battle of Bull Run, he advanced to command the famous Sixth Army Corps, which saved Washington, D.C., from capture in 1864 and spearheaded the final assault on Petersburg and the pursuit of Lee to Appomattox in 1865. He commanded the Department of Texas, 1865–1866, and served as a member on the Board of Engineers for Fortifications and on many river and harbor planning boards until he was appointed Chief of Engineers in 1879. While Wright was Chief of Engineers, engineer officers began a reservoir system at the headwaters of the Mississippi River and initiated the first substantial federal effort to control the river's lower reaches. Gen. Wright retired March 6, 1884, and died July 2, 1899, in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/hqwright.htm>

Born at Clinton, Connecticut March 6, 1820, he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1842, second in his class, remaining two years as Assistant Professor of Engineering at West Point.

He was appointed a Brigadier General of Volunteers in September 1861, and Major General of Volunteers in July 1862. During the Civil War, he served Chief engineer of Heintzelman's Division at the battle of Bull Run, and in the Port Royal expedition he commanded a Brigade. In February 1862, he was in the expedition that captured Fernandina, Florida, and commanded a Division in the attack on Secessionville, South Carolina in June 1862. In July he was assigned to the Department of the Ohio, and commanded the 1st Division, VI Corps, in the Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg. After General Sedgwick's death, he was in command of the VI Corps, which he led in the Richmond campaign until July 1864, when he was sent to the defense of the national capital, and afterwards, in August to December, he was engaged in the Shenandoah campaign. He was wounded in the battle of Cedar Creek, and was in final military operations which ended with the surrender of Lee. After the Civil War he was military governor of Texas until 1866 when he resumed his practice of civil engineering.

He was breveted Major General, US Army, in March 1865, was promoted to Brigadier General and Chief of Engineers, June 30, 1879, and was retired March 6, 1884. He died at Washington, DC, July 2, 1899.

During his career he undertook numerous military engineering tasks. He completed the Washington Monument, which had been halted because of the Civil War, in 1884, the year that he retired from the Army with the rank of Brigadier General. The obelisk marking his grave was erected by survivors of VI Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, which he commanded from the Battle of Spotsylvania in May 1864 to the end of the war.

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Courtesy of  
the Library of  
Congress



Other websites of interest:

<http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/biographies/horatio-gouverneur-wright.html>

<http://www.spiderzweb.net/~hgwright/light.html>



Photos Courtesy of the National Archives

## G. Special Interest: 14<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion: [The Rugged Register.](#)

### Rugged soldiers renew commitment to service

By Capt. Jared P. Myers, 14th Engineer Battalion

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan -- Selfless service and an uncommon sense of duty took the form of 86 raised right hands as Maj. Gen. William E. Rapp administered the oath of re-enlistment to the Task Force Rugged soldiers assembled before him on Saturday at Camp Leatherneck.



Maj. Gen. William E. Rapp, commanding general of Support Operations for U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, administers the oath of enlistment to 86 Task Force Rugged soldiers on Saturday in Afghanistan. In all, 126 soldiers across the unit renewed their enlistment contracts that day. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald S. Williams)

Rapp, deputy commanding general of support operations for U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, knows their service well: he led them as the 555th Engineer Brigade Commander in 2005.

Rapp reiterated the weight of making a renewed commitment in the face of Army-wide personnel cuts: “Every single one of you who re-enlists today is going to be a non-commissioned officer. If you aren’t ready for that, don’t [take this oath].”

During introductory remarks, Task Force and 14th Engineer Battalion Commander John G. Buck summarized the motives of his troops: “Duty, honor, and country. That spirit courses through the veins of each one of these Rugged soldiers.”

Nowhere was that spirit more evident than in the words of Sgt. Juvenal Luna, a combat engineer in the 576th Eng. Company, 4th Eng. Bn. stationed at Fort Carson, Colo. Luna was one of six soldiers awarded the Purple Heart in a ceremony held immediately before the re-enlistment. When asked what effect his injuries had on his decision to re-enlist, he stated simply, “It wasn’t easy, but it’s all about serving our country. I did this for my brothers who serve.”

Successfully gathering most of the “Rugged 100” at a central location proved to be a challenge of its own. For the past eight months, the 1,200-troop battalion has been finding and clearing deadly IEDs from local roads before they reach their intended victims. Effective coverage of these roads means decentralization of the battalion across three Regional Commands in southern Afghanistan, an area roughly the size of Washington State.

Ensuring this critical mission remained unaffected by the ceremony required months of planning, dozens of personnel substitutions, and thousands of miles in travel. Initial preparations began six months before the first contract was signed. Even so, 40 soldiers of a total 126 soldiers swore their oaths from remote bases due to mission constraints.



Maj. Gen. William E. Rapp, commanding general of Support Operations for U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, awards the Purple Heart to Sgt. Juvenal Luna on Saturday in Afghanistan. Immediately following this ceremony, Luna renewed his enlistment. He is currently assigned as a combat engineer in the 576th Eng. Company, 4th Eng. Battalion, Fort Carson, Colo. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald S. Williams)

Buck described the event as “a culmination of the last six months of soldiers and leaders talking about the future, about options, about keeping the best, and ultimately, about thinking of something greater than self.”

Sgt 1st Class Jammy Tighe, battalion career counselor, described the magnitude of this accomplishment. “Very rarely has one battalion been able to re-enlist more than 100 soldiers on one day. That’s an astronomical feat.”

Of the 126 soldiers who re-enlisted on Saturday, 12 have received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during this deployment. Twenty-six have earned the Combat Action Badge, with several more pending its award for recent combat action. These soldiers represent 17 MOSs, military occupational specialties, and have served a combined total of 629 years.

“With the Army downsizing and re-enlistment options at a premium, only taking the best, top quality soldiers, the [battalion’s senior leaders] have picked the best,” Tighe said.

Task Force Rugged is primarily composed of companies from the 14th Eng. Bn., stationed out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. Other companies include the 576th Eng. Company, from the 4th Eng. Bn. at Fort Carson, Colo.; the 509th Eng. Company, 5th Eng. Bn. of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; and the 95th Eng. Company, 65th Eng. Bn. at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. [DVIDS Webpage](#)

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## ALARACT HOTLINE FOR SOLDIERS THAT POTENTIALLY UNDERWENT A FORENSIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATION DURING THE MEDICAL EVALUATION BOARD (MEB) PROCESS

SUBJECT: ALARACT HOTLINE FOR SOLDIERS THAT POTENTIALLY UNDERWENT A FORENSIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATION DURING THE MEDICAL EVALUATION BOARD (MEB) PROCESS

REF/A/ARMY REGULATION 40-501/STANDARDS OF MEDICAL FITNESS/RAPID ACTION REVISION (RAR)/04AUG11//

REF/B/ARMY REGULATION 635-40/PHYSICAL EVALUATION FOR RETENTION, RETIREMENT, OR SEPARATION/08FEB06//

REF/C/ ARMY REGULATION 40-400/PATIENT ADMINISTRATION/RAPID ACTION REVISION (RAR)/15SEP11//

REF/D/DODD 1332.18/SEPARATION FROM THE MILITARY SERVICE BY REASON OF PHYSICAL DISABILITY//

REF/E/DOD INSTRUCTIONS 1332.38/PHYSICAL DISABILITY EVALUATION//

1. (U) SITUATION. THE SURGEON GENERAL SUSPENDED THE USE OF FORENSIC EVALUATIONS DURING THE CONDUCT OF MEDICAL EVALUATION BOARDS (MEB) UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. FORENSIC EVALUATIONS ARE FREQUENTLY USED IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, AS WELL AS FOR CERTAIN FITNESS FOR DUTY DETERMINATIONS AND CONFIDENCE REMAINS WITH THIS PRACTICE. FORENSIC EVALUATIONS INTRODUCE VARIANCE INTO THE MEB PROCESS.

2. (U) MISSION. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY US ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND (USAMEDCOM) ESTABLISHED A HOTLINE; (COM: 1-800- 984-8523; OVERSEAS: DSN: (312) 421-3700; STATESIDE: DSN: 421-3700) FOR SOLDIERS WHO HAVE POTENTIALLY EXPERIENCED A FORENSIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATION AS PART OF AN MEB PROCESS SINCE 2007.

3. (U) EXECUTION.

3.A. (U) INTENT. USAMEDCOM WILL FACILITATE FOLLOW-ON EVALUATION FOR ANY SOLDIERS WITH CONCERNS ABOUT A POTENTIAL FORENSIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATION DURING THEIR MEB PROCESS.

3.B. (U) KEY TASK. USAMEDCOM MAINTAINS A 24/7 HOTLINE AND FACILITATES FOLLOW ON ACTIONS FOR SOLDIERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED POTENTIAL FORENSIC EVALUATIONS.

3.C. (U) ENDSTATE. SOLDIERS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE APPROPRIATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS IAW STANDARD CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES UTILIZED IN DOD AND CIVILIAN HEALTHCARE DURING THEIR MEB PROCESS.

3.D. (U) CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS. SOLDIERS WHO RECEIVED A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATION IN A FORENSIC DEPARTMENT OR BY A FORENSIC CERTIFIED PROVIDER, SPECIFIC TO THE MEB PROCESS BETWEEN 01 JANUARY 2007 AND PRESENT SHOULD CONTACT THE 24/7 WARRIOR AND FAMILY HOTLINE TO CLARIFY THEIR SPECIFIC CASE AND COORDINATE FOLLOW-ON EVALUATION AS REQUIRED: COM: 1-800- 984-8523; OVERSEAS: DSN: (312) 421-3700; STATESIDE: DSN 421-3700; E-MAIL: [WSFSUPPORT@CONUS.ARMY.MIL](mailto:WSFSUPPORT@CONUS.ARMY.MIL); WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.ARMYMEDICINE.ARMY.MIL/WSFH/INDEX.HTML](http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/wsfs/index.html).

4. (U) SUSTAINMENT. N/A

5. (U) COMMAND AND SIGNAL.

5.A. (U) USAMEDCOM IS THE IDENTIFIED LEAD.

5.B. POCS:

5.B.(1) (U) MEDCOM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: REBECCA PORTER, COL, MS, CHIEF, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, HEALTH POLICY AND SERVICES HQ MEDCOM, COM: 703-681-4598, EMAIL: [REBECCA.PORTER@US.ARMY.MIL](mailto:REBECCA.PORTER@US.ARMY.MIL).

5.B.(2) (U) MEDCOM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: ED BRUSHER, LTC, MS, CHIEF, OPERATIONS BRANCH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION COM: 703-681-4188, EMAIL: [EDWARD.BRUSHER@US.ARMY.MIL](mailto:EDWARD.BRUSHER@US.ARMY.MIL).

5.B.(3) (U) HQDA AOC-CAT: SURGEON ACTION OFFICER, COM: 703-693-4821, DSN: 223-4821, EMAIL: [OTSG.AOCCAT@CONUS.ARMY.MIL](mailto:OTSG.AOCCAT@CONUS.ARMY.MIL).

5.C. (U) EXPIRATION DATE: 1 YEAR FROM DATE OF PUBLICATION

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From the AKO Splash Page:



Staff Sgt. Aaron Kaehn with the 176th Engineer Company, Washington Army National Guard, does masonry work with his Thai counterpart at the Ban Wang Nam Khiao elementary school. Multi-national forces are working together to improve interoperability at six humanitarian civic action sites throughout Thailand as part of Exercise Cobra Gold. (Photo by U.S. Army)

Spc. Javier Novoa (center), an Army engineer diver assigned to the 74th Dive Detachment, Special Troops Battalion, 7th Sustainment Brigade serves as a standby diver, with Spc. Kevin Nagel (left), on hand as Novoa's tender, and Staff Sgt. Humberto Santiago (right), supervising while members of the detachment work on patching a portion of the brigade's Large Tug-805 at Fort Eustis' 3rd Port the afternoon of Feb. 2. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Jo Bridgwater, 7th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs (Photo by U.S. Army)



U.S. Army 1st Lt. George Rousson (right), calls his Soldiers back to the vehicles after a known area of interest is investigated and cleared by the combat engineers of RCP-30 in Eastern Afghanistan Jan. 19. (Photo by U.S. Army)

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

[Essays Forward](#) ; [The Engineer Magazine](#); [Current PERSCOM Messages](#) ; [412<sup>th</sup> 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 \(OMPF\)](#) .

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## **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.”

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

Scholarships: We need your help to spread the word about AEA scholarships. We have three \$1000 scholarships available every year to Enlisted soldiers in our Regiment - Active or Reserve Component. Many of these go unclaimed every year. More importantly, we need your help to get the word to our combat wounded and families of our combat fallen. Several \$2500 Baswell scholarships are available now. Details on how to submit are available on the AEA website:

<http://www.armyengineer.com/scholarships.htm>

For more info, email Jack O'Neill, [xd@armyengineer.com](mailto:xd@armyengineer.com)

Jack O'Neill

Colonel, US Army Corps of Engineers (Retired)

Executive Director, Army Engineer Association

703-428-6049 [www.armyengineer.com](http://www.armyengineer.com)

For AEA Member information -- please share with anyone you know who may have an interest in this program. Members may validate member status at the member portal - at [www.armyengineer.com](http://www.armyengineer.com).

**INDUSTRY SEMINAR INFO:** Supporting Firm Member representatives are invited to attend the Industry / Government seminar scheduled for Wednesday, 14 March, 2012, at the Army and Navy Club on Farragut Square in Washington DC. The seminar will include a networking continental breakfast, breaks, and a networking buffet lunch. Reservations are required. Supporting Firm Member fee is \$350.00 per person.

Seminar Theme is USACE programs and activities – Working agenda and invited speakers to date are:

Mr. Lloyd Caldwell, USACE Military Programs and International

Mr. Ray Alexander, USACE Contingency Operations and Homeland Security

COL John Boule, Commander, New York District, USACE

LTC Philip Secrist, Commander, Philadelphia District, USACE

Presentations will include Q and A, allowing excellent opportunity for open dialogue. This seminar will be conducted on [Wednesday, 14 March](#) 2012, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon in the Main Ballroom (2nd floor) at the Army and Navy Club, on Farragut Square, 901 17th Street NW, Washington DC. The use of mobile phones is strictly prohibited within the Army Navy Club and coat and tie are required. Army Navy Club member Jack O'Neill is the sponsoring member for this event.

On site registration will begin at 8:00 am. Presentations start at 9 am. The purpose of the session is to offer AEA Supporting Firm Members an opportunity to participate in a meaningful exchange with key Army leaders on programs, policies and current activities of interest.

**Online registration:**

[https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=AEA&WebCode=EventDetail&evt\\_key=5c1a88a2-60ac-417f-b508-c8dff8fe6931](https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=AEA&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=5c1a88a2-60ac-417f-b508-c8dff8fe6931)

**For Direct Registration assistance call or email Dina Youtz, at [finance@armyengineer.com](mailto:finance@armyengineer.com) - 703-428-6953.** Please limit your firm's attendance to two Supporting Firm Member representatives.

Every Engineer MOS soldier is eligible for membership in the Engineer Regiment's fraternal organization, the Army Engineer Association.

AEA is the nucleus of the Regimental network, providing information and services to Engineer **Soldiers** now serving and **Veterans** through:

- Bi-Monthly magazine, Army Engineer
- Discount insurance and banking services through AFBA
- Career and Job Services
- 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>

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

## Upcoming Events:

### [FY13 DOD and Federal Agency Program Briefings](#)

POC: [Alan Burton](#)

**March 27, 2012**

Bethesda, Md.

### [Peninsula Engineer Conference](#)

POC: [Ann McLeod](#)

**April 3-5, 2012**

Seoul, Korea

### [SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo](#)

Co-Hosted By SAME HQ

**May 22-25, 2012**

America's Center, St. Louis, Mo.

## 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](#).

## b. 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]

c. "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](http://www.same.org/college) or send the Ben Matthews an email at [samecollegeoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:samecollegeoutreach@gmail.com).

d. **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](#).

e. **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:](#)

a. 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.

b. **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

c. The Army Engineer Spouses' Club (AESC) would like to personally invite you to become a member. Membership is open to spouses of all Active, National Guard, Reserve, Retired US Army Engineers and all USACE Civilian employees worldwide. AESC offers a monthly Castle Gram newsletter and activities in the greater Washington DC area as well as scholarship opportunities. For more information, please visit our website, <http://armyengineerspousesclub.com>. When at our website, don't forget to visit our Castle Boutique – you don't have to be a member to order, just click the shopping cart!

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[88](#), [87](#), [86](#), [85](#), [84](#), [83](#), [82](#), [81](#), [80](#), [79](#), [78](#), [77](#), [76](#), [75](#), [74](#), [73](#), [72](#), [71](#),  
[70](#), [69](#), [68](#), [67](#), [66](#), [65](#), [64](#), [63](#), [62](#), [61](#), [60](#), [59](#), [58](#), [57](#), [56](#), [55](#),  
[54](#), [53](#), [52](#), [51](#), [50](#), [49](#), [48](#), [47](#), [46](#), [45](#), [44](#), [43](#), [42](#), [41](#), [40](#), [39](#),  
[38](#), [37](#), [36](#), [35](#), [34](#), [33](#), [32](#), [31](#), [30](#), [29](#), [28](#), [27](#), [26](#), [25](#), [24](#), [23](#),  
[22](#), [21](#), [20](#), [19](#), [18](#), [17](#) [1-16 are available on AKO](#)

Alternate response email address is [usarmy.pentagon.hqda-  
oce.mbx.daen-zc@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-<br/>oce.mbx.daen-zc@mail.mil)