

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT'S NEWS MAGAZINE

HEARTLAND ENGINEER



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AUGUST 2007

A SALUTE to our DEPLOYED PATRIOTS

Two years after **Katrina**
Four years in **Iraq**



A CENTURY OF VISION, ACHIEVEMENT & SERVICE

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PATRIOT DAY 9-11 PROCLAMATION

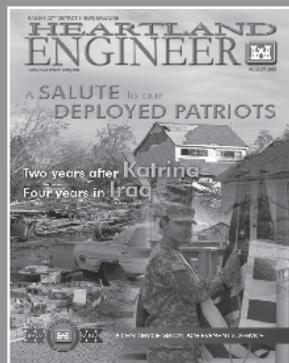
President Bush signs 9-11 day proclamation.



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ON THE COVER: Kansas City District continues to lead the way in deployments. Two years in Katrina, four years in Iraq. Photo collage by Rusty Thomas

The 5-**W**s of Reconstruction: Who, What, When, Where and Why

This month, as we honor those of you that are deployed, have deployed, or are deploying, let's take a step back and review our contributions to the mission from a strategic perspective. With this broader view comes greater understanding, an enhanced sense of purpose, and a strengthened call to duty for each of us.

After analyzing results from Iraq and Afghanistan (where), the Department of Defense (DOD) adopted a new core competence called Military Support to Stabilization, Security, Transition and Reconstruction or SSTR. This new core competence is considered commensurate with combat operations, and represents a huge paradigm shift and recognition that if left undone, events could potentially lead to stalled development, unemployment, resurgent violence, a return to insecurity, a humanitarian crisis, and regional instability (why).

According to Joint doctrine, reconstruction, as part of SSTR, is defined as "the process of rebuilding degraded, damaged, or destroyed political, socio-economic, and physical infrastructure of a country or territory to create the foundation for longer-term development." Reconstruction tasks include the repair and restoration of public works including port facilities, airports, dams, railroads, roads, canals, and public utilities such as power, water, gas, sewage, and garbage collection. In Iraq, one can add the restoration of crude oil, liquid petroleum gas, and natural gas infrastructure, key components of the country's economy (what).

To meet this new challenge, the Army is to ensure specified programs and the quantity and quality of personnel needed for SSTR are developed. Specifically mentioned in DOD Directive 3000.5, SSTR relies heavily on a highly competent strategic engineering component. This strategic engineering component is you and I, and the rest of the USACE team (who). Without you project delivery and reconstruction is not possible, and without reconstruction the prospects for stability and security in Iraq and Afghanistan are unclear. The enemy knows this, and frequently targets reconstruction progress.

But progress continues today (when) thanks to patriots like Danielle Brooks, David Carte, Braven Dyer, Ted Falcon, Cathy Hood, William Hood, Kevin Lynch, Derrick Mitchell, Beverly Stone, and Trudy Templeton. According to Gulf Region Division's (GRD) website, despite 25 years of neglect and a costly insurgency, Iraq's infrastructure is bouncing back and our assistance projects are having a real impact on the lives of the Iraqi people. As of this past July, GRD has completed over 3,460 projects of 4,335 planned, totaling nearly \$8 billion in reconstruction. This is extraordinary, yet more is needed.

Like in our own country following catastrophe, reconstruction efforts take time requiring National persistence, detailed oversight, and a sufficient depth of competent engineering professionals for protracted operations. This strategic engineering competence and staying power resides only in USACE. Thank you for stepping up to do your part, and to those of you considering a response to a strengthened call to duty, I salute you. Stay safe, we look forward to your return, and Essayons!



COL Roger A. Wilson, Jr.



1958-1967

The sixth decade of the

Kansas City District

World Events

1957

- Kansas City District initiates construction on Pomme de Terre dam and reservoir.
- Kansas City District supervises design and construction of military housing 1958.
- Water Supply Act permits the incorporation of storage space in Corps of Engineers reservoirs for domestic, municipal and industrial water needs.
- Kansas City District is engaged in construction of intercontinental ballistic program facilities.
- Maj. Gen. Galloway, Missouri River Division - Division Engineer, advises that the nation's defense program will be "in a state of expansion, reorganization and change for many years to come".
- Federal government grants a 50-year lease to the Kansas Park and Resources Authority for use of a 780-acre tract at Kanopolis Lake.
- Kansas River basin experiences extensive local flooding 1959.
- Construction begins on Big Bend Dam in South Dakota, the last of the Corps of Engineer's main stem Missouri River projects.
- U.S. Senate Select Committee on national Water Resources recommends comprehensive studies of water and related land resources be undertaken for all river basins in the nation. Recommendations are translated into legislation in the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965.
- Kansas City District begins construction of Pomona dam and lake 1960.
- Kansas City District completes local protection project at Abilene, Kan.
- Corps of Engineers adjusts earlier main stem river surveys.
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposes a "no new starts" policy, which Congress rejects and to which the President responds with a veto of the public works appropriation bill for fiscal year 1960.
- Senate Select Committee on National Water Resources is created 1961.
- Kansas City District begins construction of first-generation ICBM facilities at Forbes and Schilling Air Force Bases.
- Kansas City District begins construction of Wilson and Milford dams and reservoirs.
- Kansas City District begins large local protection project at Manhattan.
- Kansas City District completes Soldier Creek diversion in Topeka.
- Kansas City District places Pomme de Terre dam and reservoir, a unit of the Osage River basin system in Missouri, in flood control operations; dedication is 1963.
- Little Blue River basin experiences the most damaging flood on record to that date.
- Congress adopts resolution to have the Corps of Engineers investigate the need for further flood control improvements on the Blue River in Kansas and Missouri 1962.
- Flood Control Act, Sec. 207, provides authority to develop public-use recreational sites along banks of the Missouri River.
- Flood Control Act authorizes project modifications to Harry S. Truman dam and project to include hydroelectric power generating facilities and a substantial multipurpose pool.



100 YEARS OF HISTORY

Dam Building and Military Construction in the Cold War Era

The Kansas City District performed at race pace in the 1950's and 60's. Even at this speed, it was a challenge for the District to accomplish its varied civil works and military missions.

A huge engineering program, termed the Pick-Sloan plan in the Missouri River basin, was being carried out with great speed to prevent the catastrophic floods that were a part of the lower basin's history.

The District finally had an authorized flood control program and appropriations, and it was charging the hill to get protection in place before the next flood. Certain projects were given priority.

Most pressing was the immediate need for flood control structures at Kansas City.

A flood wall and levee program there was deemed essential in the initial stage to supply interim protection during construction of dams and reservoirs, both on the main stem and the tributaries.

Channel stabilization in the lower reaches of the main stem river was selected as desirable for early work because of the length of time required to confine the 498.1 miles of channel to Rulo by means of permeable dikes, and deposition of sediments.

On the agricultural levee project, studies showed that in the area downstream from Kansas City, the risk of overtopping the planned local protection works in the absence of stream reservoir control was high enough to eliminate them from consideration until the future.

Congress approved changes to Pick-Sloan in the 1954 Flood Control Act. The Kansas City District quickened its pace to implement revised plans in the Osage Basin in

Missouri and the Kansas River basin. The District started nine major dam and reservoir projects in the decade beginning in 1957.

Reservoir development programs invariably encounter opposition, which stems predominantly from local interests in the proposed reservoir areas. For the Grand River Basin in Missouri, state and federal agencies combined efforts with local interests to get Congress to approve restudies or to eliminate the dams previously authorized.

In undertaking dam and reservoir construction the Kansas City District weighed the desires of local interests. The District took into account the earning or producing powers of lands and improvements, and the indicated losses compared with the anticipated project benefits from the basin and regional points of view.

Many members of Congress and the Bureau of the Budget regarded Corps project justifications as "economic fairy tales." The Corps of Engineers had been using the Budget of Bureau's Circular A-47 since 1952 as the authorized guide to justify water resource development projects. There was much dissatisfaction with it.

New budget directives were issued in the Eisenhower administration that was directed to more comprehensive planning and economic analysis. In short, most of the critics said the Corps of Engineers was failing to include considerations other than engineering in its planning and economic objectives. Flood control engineering and construction of dams was far ahead of watershed management programs and the planning for multiple uses of water stored in reservoirs.

The diverse planning and engineering role of the Kansas City District in heartland America was even further amplified as the decade of the 1950s progressed. The nation's defense program in the region would be "in a state of expansion, reorganization and change for many years to come," Maj. Gen. Galloway of the Corps of Engineers said.

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Milford Extreem Outdoor Water Festival



By *L. Joseph Donovan*

Milford Lake, the biggest lake in Kansas, hosted its first annual “Extreme Outdoor Water Festival” on August 18 at the south boat ramp. Located near Fort Riley and Junction City, the event brought in numerous visitors to experience the completely free entertainment provided by more than 40 sponsors.

The “Extreme Outdoor Water Festival” was the “brain child” of Cynthia Dierks, a Milford Lake Park Ranger, but the first thing she will tell you is that it wouldn’t have been “extreme” without Tony Reitz, the State Park Manager. Dierks and Reitz work together often on the many safety issues dealing with Milford Lake.

When asked why she was taking on an event of this magnitude, Dierks explained, “The communities surrounding Milford Lake are growing rapidly. People moving here are young and coming from different parts of the world with different cultures. Our goal is to reduce the risk of tragedies we are foreseeing with this type of influx. My original thought was to find a method that

conveyed a safety message and familiarize new visitors with what the lake has to offer that people would sit down and listen to.”

“Safety at a lake is different”, Dierks said. Many of the people who will be utilizing Milford Lake for the first time may know about being around an ocean beach, water park or a public swimming pool “...but on a lake it’s different. No lifeguards, small water craft moving about and resident fish and wildlife are a few things newcomers need to be aware of at the lake”, she said.

Guests were entertained with free canoe, kayak, and pontoon boat rides. Many patrons received hands-on experience with different watercraft by trying out the “extreme” personal watercraft simulator. A hit with the younger crowd was a seatbelt simulator that allowed you to feel a 5 MPH crash. Aaron Ross of Wilsey, Kans. put it best when he said “That felt cool” as he got out of the ride. Those were only a few of the many free, hands-on activities that were available.

Patrons visited booths and displays sponsored by many local and military organizations and agencies that participated in this event. Themes featured throughout the south ramp area were driving while intoxicated simulations, a water safety booth, a display of emergency

vehicles and a K-9 control exhibition where people were able to see how criminals are brought to justice by using highly trained German Sheppard and mixed breeds. Policemen received few volunteers as human chew toys for their demonstration.

There were a few special activities that were “extremely” entertaining. A Youth Triathlon for kids 9 through 14 was held in Outlet Park below the Milford Dam. Medals were given out for first and second place.

There was a great turnout for the “Float Your Boat” contest. A \$25 cash prize and a trophy awarded for the winner of the race. Boats were designed using only cardboard and tape. With boats named SS Princess, Se Ya, Black Pearl, Stingray and Titanic, it appeared to be the start of a water version of the “Soap Box Derby”. There were also some very extreme sand art in the “Sand Castle/ Sculpture” contest.

Other events included divers retrieving a sunken car and watching helicopters land and take off in the parking lot. An outdoor summer event couldn’t be complete without a dunk tank and a few safety officials to dunk. And for the “do it yourselves”, there was a craftsman there to show how to make canoes and kayaks.

Asked if this was her idea, Dierks said she had heard and saw similar

Lewis & Clark Command and General Staff College Dedication

By Jennie Wilson

The Lewis and Clark Command and General Staff College (CGSC) was dedicated August 13, 2007 in the Eisenhower Auditorium at Fort Leavenworth, by Senator Pat Roberts of Kans. During the dedication Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were inducted into the Fort Leavenworth Hall of Fame for their contributions to the Army and the Nation during their 8,000 mile journey across the continental United States. Twenty-three of Lewis and Clarks descendants attended the induction and dedication. Today, “we are dedicating the finest learning center in the United States of America... How fitting that this magnificent new educational structure be named for the men who are symbolic of pushing the boundaries of knowledge and to unknown frontiers”, said Senator Roberts. Senator Roberts was instrumental in securing funding for the new CGSC by lobbying congress with a rusty pipe he carried from the original CGSC Bell Hall. LT. Gen. William B. Caldwell said, if the building hadn’t been named for Lewis and Clark, it would have been named after Roberts.

“Here we will continue to develop the traits exhibited by Lewis and Clark as we develop leaders who are innovative, adaptive, flexible and culturally attuned. The skills that are essential for the 19th century are just as ever critical for the challenges that we will face and are facing today in the 21st century” stated, Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, CGSC Commandant.

This 410,000 sq ft, \$115 million facility is home to 96 state-of-the-art classrooms with \$34 million in information technology, a 2,004 seat auditorium, food court, barbershop and bookstore. Lewis and Clark CGSC incorporates contemporary architectural design while instilling timeless quintessence.

Corps of Engineers Project Manager, Christine Hendzlik, explained that this was the first building in the district to be designed for progressive collapse. “We used a patented design system called SidePlate that resulted in specifically designed connections which were partially attached in the steel shop with final welding done in the field.” This design makes the facility more structurally sound during a disaster allowing patrons and staff more time to evacuate.

Each classroom is equipped with distance learning and video teleconferencing capabilities, smart-board technology and plasma screens. All of the classrooms are identical, interchangeable and fully integrated allowing easy adaptability as technology changes.

History at Fort Leavenworth illuminates through the numerous stained glass windows that once adorned Bell Hall. These ornate visual chronicles were removed, renovated and reinstalled in the new facility bringing vibrant color and an elaborate visual history to this new educational institute melding history and state-of-the-art technology. Hendzlik said, that several historical monuments including the Abram’s Loop, the Lamp of Knowledge and the Berlin Wall Monument were also moved to the grounds of the new building.

“Today our army and our nation stand on the edge of a new frontier. This building will be an invaluable asset in educating our leadership who

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MISSION REVISITED

Brad Eaton -PM-ED Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan 07/2005-01/2006

My best day, while serving as an Area Engineer at Kandahar, happened after the Afghan National Army (ANA) Ammunition Storage Point (ASP) exploded at their temporary camp adjacent to the Brigade Complex construction site in Kandahar. Allegedly this was caused by an Afghan Army Soldier brewing tea too close to the facility and not from a terrorist attack. The customer had deleted a planned \$1 million concrete igloo ASP from the scope of work early in the design process. With no place to store munitions then or in the foreseeable future (other than hastily erected tents and sleeping quarters), we designed a new temporary ASP, using Hesco bastions (giant wire mess sandbag) and steel shipping containers, literally on a piece of scrap paper. The contractor constructed it in two weeks, for a cost under \$50,000. The customer was so pleased with the result that they copied the design at other ANA sites. As an engineer, being able to have an impact on the mission doing this type of field engineering would bring me back again.





“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”

Theodore Roosevelt



Go-To-Guy



“The Ambassador of Jefferson Parish” Kevin Blair (left) discusses a demolition with a property owner in Jefferson Parish. LA-RFO Photo by Spec. Larry Gleeson.

*By Dave Harris,
Public Affairs Specialist, Louisiana Recovery Field Office*

Others talk about early living conditions working in Louisiana after Katrina – sleeping in a tent or on a boat docked near a bunch of waterborne snakes. Resident Engineer Kevin Blair spent his first days in style.

“I slept in a 2004 Ford Taurus,” he said, and recalls the day he got to move into a motel that had been occupied by the police and National Guard. “The whole ceiling in my room was covered with black mold.”

Kevin has had adventures in Iraq and New Orleans. He stretches out his arms, making like scales balancing between the two places – where would he rather be?

He settled his choice, having served in Iraq, on the Army Corps of Engineers’ New Orleans recovery mission since Sept. 5, 2005, and planning at the end of the mission to return to Iraq or Afghanistan.

Hailing from Kansas City District, he said he has four more years to go before retirement. He’ll spend a month or two at home before heading to the Middle East again.

Fishing?

“Naw. I don’t have any hobbies to speak of.” So when it comes to thinking about retirement, he said, “Might as well keep working.”

He wrote his first load ticket here when he was working Lafreniere Park in Metairie. Kevin later served as a quality assurance supervisor, both on the West Bank and in Grand Isle. Since then became the resident engineer in Jefferson Parish.

His biggest challenge before returning to Kansas City was coordinating QAs and debris crews, keeping track and locating resources. “It was especially challenging during the PPDR – personal property debris removal program – that involved 150,000 properties in three months with

24,000 work orders – coordinating with the contractors to get the work orders completed.”

Kevin was used to working on large projects. In Iraq, from June 2004 to April 2005, he was resident engineer for the northern three provinces, responsible for stringing 172 kilometers of transmission lines. He also was tasked to build an Iraqi training base and, in Arbil, he set up a resident office.

Prior to that, he served 20 years in the National Guard and built 18 kilometers of road during Operation Just Cause, the 1989 U.S. invasion of Panama and fought flooding in Missouri in 1993.

He was used to working on public projects, he said, but what was unique about the mission in New Orleans was “the magnitude of working with contractors on private properties and dealing with the public on a constant basis daily.”

With employees deploying to New Orleans from throughout the country, he said he saw good people volunteering for the work, but he faces the reality that “their spouses won’t let them stay, and we have to start all over again with retraining.”

Area Engineer Nolan Raphelt said, “Kevin has an amazing ability to know everything in his sector, from the smallest matter to the big picture. This guy knows what’s going on – all the detail I want or need. He is superior!”

Kevin hasn’t spent much time at home lately, between Iraq and Louisiana.

One gets the impression he has seen it all, and nothing seems to faze him. But sometimes there’s an interruption he cannot ignore.

“I had to come home from Iraq when my house burned down and fix that,” he said.



Hurricane Katrina Recovery For Indiana native, response is about

“Doing A Hard Job Right”

By Tom Clarkson, Public Affairs, Louisiana Recovery Field Office

“I feel a keen sense of necessity to see that this effort is completed as correctly as possible,” says Dan Mroz, presently a key member of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Louisiana Recovery Field Office.

This team has labored now for two years to assist the thousands who lost their virtually every possession. But a few of its achievements include the removal of 28,500,000 cubic yards of debris – enough to fill ten Empire State Buildings; demolition of nearly 6,700 storm destroyed homes, removal of over 58,000 storm and salt water killed trees and the building of 216 temporary school classrooms and 94 critical facilities such as police and fire stations.

This organization, focused on an “unprecedented disaster met with an unparalleled response,” is comprised of full-time U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employees on temporary assignment, active duty and Reserve personnel, rehired annuitants – former government professionals brought back to provide seasoned, experienced help - and a multitude of contractors.

Originally – barely days after Hurricane Katrina made its horrendous landfall - Mroz deployed to Baton Rouge, was assigned to the Housing Strike Team and worked in western Louisiana locating property suitable for development into FEMA trailer parks until Hurricane Rita hit that part of the state.

Upon evacuating back to Baton Rouge, he jumped at the opportunity to become a part of the “Operation Blue Roof” team working in both New Orleans and the “west bank.” These roofers ultimately installed and repaired 81,242 roofs, the equivalent of nine square miles!

Back at his regular workplace in the Kansas City District, where he has been for fourteen years, he is an environmental engineer. A significant portion of that work entails the clean-up of former military/defense sites.

On his second deployment, now in New Orleans, he is now working as an office engineer serving as the “recon team lead” where he leads a team of fourteen Corps and contract personnel. The work ensures that all critical contract-related data is reviewed for accuracy and completeness.

“‘Transparency’ is the key aspect of our labors,” he says, “as we want anyone looking at these records – be it tomorrow or ten years from now - to fully understand what was done, why, by whom, and for how much.”

Growing up in Hammond, Ind., he attended Purdue University, graduating with a degree in civil engineering with an environmental emphasis. With that base of “clean and right”, one can well understand how his care and concern for attention to detail comes naturally.

Looking up from his work-laden desk he says, “Having been here at the first, I now feel a sense of commitment and obligation to see the mission through to its end to ensure that the superlative efforts by so many are properly supported by verifiable,

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Dan Mroz, fourteen year Kansas City District veteran currently working at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Louisiana Recovery Field Office.

LDP Graduation



“No matter where they sit in the organization, they will be our new leaders”, said Jason Leibbert, class project manager.



By L. Joseph Donovan

The Kansas City District's Leadership Development Program (LDP) graduated their eighth group of eleven emerging leaders for the district on Aug. 23, 2007. Coming from diverse backgrounds in Project Management, Contracting, Emergency Management, Engineering, Resident and Lake Project Offices, this year's class included: Mary Lyle, John Park, Jonathan Petry, Justin Cofer, Nolan Fisher, Jim Franz, Jud Kneuvean, Brian Wright, Mary Hix, Richard Skinker and Robin Wankum.

Alum Leibbert, a 2003 LDP graduate, giving back to the program, volunteered to be the class project manager. He coordinated all the events, budget, schedule, while ensuring students had everything they needed to through their challenging year. Next years project manager will be one of the LDP's first graduates, Cindy Moses.

This year's class started off with a "mini" boot camp at Fort Leonard Wood. For two days they stayed in barracks, ate with the Soldiers and dressed in BDU's. They went through the Post's Leadership Reaction Course and gained an appreciation for some of what Soldiers do in the Army. They were teamed in a four man squad for the "Shoot House". This is an exercise much like the FBI's Hogan's Alley where they were

armed with paintball guns and secured a street, house by house. In some houses there were cardboard targets that popped up, in others there lurked drill instructors with paintball guns. They even qualified on the virtual rifle range. Much like a game you'd find in a video arcade, the rifle range is specific to a military mission where the class shot targets in different positions from standing to prone.

Midterm, the class went to Washington, DC for a week to meet with Corps Headquarters staff, and other agency personnel. At the Pentagon they were introduced to staffers for the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA) as well as with the Army's Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM).

For one day, each month, they attended classes provided by National Seminars, a division of Rockhurst University. Each class had a theme such as team building, coaching and mentoring, conflict management, strategic planning and change management to name a few. Students read books assigned by the Program Coordinator for National Seminars, Ms. Laurie Murphy. They discussed, present papers and give speeches regarding the subject.

The group was divided into teams and assigned a team project that could be finished within the LDP year. These teams had to develop a Project Management Plan, assign a project manager and develop a budget and a schedule. There were three projects in all; the new



100 YEARS OF HISTORY



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President Dwight D. Eisenhower was pursuing a policy of countering Soviet expansion all over the globe. The basic premise of the policy of “deterrence” was that there would be no war because the U.S. was capable of responding to an attack with a devastating counterattack.

As implemented, this meant perpetually innovating military technology to provide the nation with the leading-edge weaponry advances. This policy provided the Corps of Engineers with tremendous challenges to have in place the facilities from which the technology of deterrence could be launched.

It was an era of fast-paced change and tension. In 1957, the Soviet Premier boasted that his military had developed an intercontinental range rocket and the Soviets successfully launched an Earth orbital satellite.

The new sense of urgency led to immediate implementation of new weapons systems. President Eisenhower approved an “emergency” intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) program. The Atlas ICBM was designated for deployment with the Strategic Air command, whose strategic deterrent value was based on a mixed force of aircraft and missiles, and which relied on the Corps of Engineers for engineering and construction.

The first generation of ICBMs, the series D, E, and F Atlas, were deployed by Strategic Air command at Forbes and Schilling Air Force Bases in Kansas. The missile facilities were “essentially nonstandard” and the Kansas City District engineers had to learn the intricacies of the latest rapidly evolving missile technology and fit each to site.

It is difficult to comprehend how complicated it was to set up an operational missile site. Equally challenging, it was necessary to ensure that the construction program was “prosecuted with a minimum of lost motion” and that the end result achieved the national defense objective: the earliest possible ICBM operational capability with the most advanced weapons system. And the evolutionary spiral was steep in this Cold War era.

President John F. Kennedy accelerated the missile building program in response to Soviet aggression. The Air Force asked the Corps of Engineers to build launch and support facilities at McConnell Air Force Base, Kans, for the Titan and the Minuteman weapons systems.

The Kansas City District prepared itself for the complex technical intricacies associated with the second-generation missile facilities’ developments. The Corps of Engineers then established the Ballistic Missile

Construction Office.

The District’s missile facilities activity was scaled down and gradually phased out. Its fast paced missile mission lasted a decade, producing important construction achievements, performing a strategic national security role.

The District’s knowledge and skills in high technology construction had been significantly advanced. It was prepared when the Air Force asked it to construct a precision instrument laboratory.

At Forts Riley and Leavenworth, the District built for the Army a state-of-the-art flight simulator facility, sophisticated operations and communications buildings.

The Kansas City District also performed more traditional military construction, in this heated Cold War era. Fort Leonard Wood was expanded as a staging area for Army personnel as well as a basic training facility. The District built a series of regimental areas as self-contained units which included administrative buildings, training facilities, barracks and mess halls.

Forts Riley and Leavenworth got improvements and additions, including tactical facilities, classrooms, and barracks. At all the posts, the District upgraded and expanded the amenities. The District managed construction of over 2,660 units of dependent housing from 1957 to 1961, at Forts Riley, Leavenworth and Leonard Wood.

The steadily escalating U.S. participation in the Vietnam War resulted in activating munitions plants. The District supervised reactivation of the Lake City and the Gateway Army Ammunition Plants, in Missouri. It undertook the role of overseeing rehabilitation of projects at the Sunflower Ordnance Works and the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant.

As the Vietnam conflict escalated, President Lyndon B. Johnson got a \$69.9 billion defense appropriation for the 1967-68 fiscal year, the largest single appropriation ever passed by Congress to that time. At the same time, the Kansas City District was implementing the “value engineering” concept to work in concert with its contractors is more economical and efficient.

In January 1966, the Kansas City District Commander said that if any single word could describe the District’s capability at that time, it was “flexibility.” The District was prepared to expedite military design and construction as military requirements demanded, but change was imminent.

MILFORD EXTREEM OUTDOOR WATER FESTIVAL

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events like this at other lakes. She thought that underlying fun with a safety message was the best and fastest way to hit her target market. As her idea became more public, she had sponsors and community vendors lining up to get “on-board” with this great event. Dierks realized the success of this last month when she had sponsors talking to her about next year’s event and how to make it even more “extreme”. But, she says, as “extreme” as this idea gets, the message of safety will always be its guidon.

Whether in the Middle East or in the Midwest, the Corps of Engineers continues to answer the call of improving quality of life. With her understanding of the situation around her and the success of this event, Cynthia Dierks embodies the Corps motto of “Essayons”. The Midwest will certainly be looking forward to the Second Annual Extreme Outdoor Water Festival.

LEWIS AND CLARK DEDICATION

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will lead these brave soldiers. Just as Lewis and Clark had made tough life and death decisions that affected the mission and their soldiers, the officers who are educated here will be required to do the same as well” said, Lt. Gen. Caldwell.

50 international students from 48 different nations will attend the CGSC this fall. Traditionally international Command and General Staff College graduates have risen to the highest levels in their countries. 26 have graduated to become head of their states. 309 have become ministers or ambassadors. Another 317 have become chiefs of their militaries or their armies and another 2000 became general officers, said Caldwell during the international flag ceremony.

Since 1881 this installation has provided leadership training, arms education, military doctrine and leadership development to the top military officers from all branches of the armed force.



“DOING A HARD JOB RIGHT”

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documented and correct contract closeouts.”

No simple task that for when one considers that – in just one aspect of this work - if all the trucks full of debris that were hauled to landfills by this team were lined up, bumper to bumper, it would form a line stretching from New York City to Los Angeles.

So noting, he turns back to his work saying, “With that in mind, perhaps one can see why it is so important that we document how this hard job was and that it was done right!”

When he returns home next month – after eight months as a part of this hurricane recovery team – he can know, with pride, he’s done more than his part.

For more information about the recovery operations of the Corps’ Louisiana Recovery Field Office as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency response, visit www.faceofthecorps.com

LDP GRADUATION

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workstation survey, learning organization, and an in-house record management center.

Their first project was the highly visible new workstation survey. Demo’s were set up in the hallways for individuals at the Federal Building to inspect and critique. A great deal of information was gathered and will be useful while the Kansas City District anticipates purchasing new cubicle furniture for our move to the new floors.

The second project, called “learning organization” a Business and Quality Procedures (BQP), had team members writing a “standard process” for documenting and storing information. This information comes from the lessons learned and after action review reports from projects completed by the Corps.

The third project was to evaluate an in-house record management center. The team researched information regarding storing files, electronic transfer and converting existing space in the basement of the Federal Building for project files.

The final event the LDP class experienced was graduation. With the LDP, graduation is a full day event.

The class started graduation day by meeting with Col. Wilson and his command

management group. Each team gave a final presentation of their findings for their assigned team projects.

The formal graduation ceremony was held in the Richard Bolling Federal Building Cafeteria Conference Room. Mr. Leibbert hosted the event introducing speakers Col. Wilson, keynote speaker retired Headquarters Deputy Director for Civil Works, John D’Aniello and students Jud Kneuvean and Brian Wright. All speakers echoed the class quote by John C. Maxwell, “A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way”. Col. Wilson then recognized each student by shaking their hand. The event was concluded with Cindy Moses introducing her thirteen students for the class of 2008.

Later that evening, friends, family and co-workers joined together for a celebratory and awards dinner at Californo’s restaurant in Westport. Richard Skinker hosted the event. Justin Cofer offered a toast to start the dinner and Robin Wankum offered up the meals invocation. During dinner, a humorous and heartfelt presentation of pictures of the class’s experiences was projected on a screen. Graduation plaques were given to all the students for going through the LDP by Leibbert. The class presented Leibbert and Murphy an award for their patience and dedication to them. Each student presented another student with a humorous present that represent what they meant to the class. The evening concluded with Col. Wilson wishing the class success.

When asked why people would want to get into the program Leibbert said, “The LDP is meant to improve your leadership skills, which can make you a more effective team member. It also hones your presentation skills”. He continued “it’s really about self development, and learning more about your own strengths and weaknesses. You also learn a lot more about how the District operates and about the Corps as an agency”.

Currently the LDP is somewhat exclusive, not every Corps district has a leadership program. Folks from other Corps districts are starting to catch on, and they look to Kansas City for advice on how to create and manage their own programs.

Leibbert concluded his tenure by saying, “Everyone can be a leader, regardless of where you sit in the organization. Even if you do not plan to become a supervisor someday, you’ll be able to practice all the things you’ve learned in LDP.”

PATRIOT DAY

9-11 Proclamation



A Proclamation by the President of the United States of America September 11, 2001, was a defining moment in American history. On that terrible day, our Nation saw the face of evil as 19 men barbarously attacked us and wantonly murdered people of many races, nationalities, and creeds. On Patriot Day, we remember the innocent victims, and we pay tribute to the valiant firefighters, police officers, emergency personnel and ordinary citizens who risked their lives so others might live.

After the attacks on 9/11, America resolved that we would go on the offense against our enemies, and we would not distinguish between the terrorists and those who harbor and support them. All Americans honor the selfless men and women of our Armed Forces, the dedicated members of our public safety, law enforcement and intelligence communities, and the thousands of others who work hard each day to protect our country, secure our liberty and prevent future attacks.

The spirit of our people is the source of America's strength, and 6 years ago, Americans came to the aid of neighbors in need. On Patriot Day, we pray for those who died and for their families. We volunteer to help others and demonstrate the continuing compassion of our citizens. On this solemn occasion, we rededicate ourselves to laying the foundation of peace with confidence in our mission and our free way of life.

By a joint resolution approved Dec. 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89), the Congress has designated September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sept. 11, 2007, as Patriot Day. I call upon the Governors of the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as well as appropriate officials of all units of government, to direct that the flag be flown at half-staff on Patriot Day. I also call upon the people of the United States to observe Patriot Day with appropriate ceremonies, activities and remembrance services, to display the flag at half-staff from their homes on that day and to observe a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 a.m. eastern daylight time to honor the innocent Americans and people from around the world who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Kansas City District

- Kansas City District completes local flood protection project at Salina and at Ottawa on the Marais des Cygnes River.
- Kansas City District begins local protection Sec. 205 project at Clyde and Franklin, Kan.
- Congress authorizes Clinton dam and lake project.
- Flood Control Act authorizes local protection project at Atchison, Kan., and modifies Kansas City local protection.
- Kansas City District places Tuttle Creek project into operation for flood control.
- Alteration of the Kansas City Terminal Bridge over the Kansas River is completed.
- Kansas City District builds launch and support facilities at McConnell AFB for Titan II 1963.
- Kansas City District provides engineering support for improvements to Fort Leonard Wood.
- Kansas City District initiates construction of Stockton dam and lake project.
- Pomona dam and lake is placed in operation.
- Kansas City District initiates construction of second-generation ICBMs.
- Kansas City District builds launch and support facilities for the Minuteman missile at Whiteman AFB.

1964

- Water Resources Research Act creates Water Resources Council.
- Kansas City District initiates construction on Perry dam and lake project.
- Wilson Lake is placed in operation.
- Kansas City District begins construction of Rathbun dam and lake.
- Kansas City District officially begins construction of Harry S. Truman dam and reservoir.

1965

- Kansas City District initiates plans for development of public-use recreational sites on banks of main stem river.
- Flood Control Act authorizes channel improvements and Long Branch Lake in the Chariton-Little Chariton basins Iowa and Missouri.
- Flood Control Act authorizes construction of five dams and lakes in the Grand River basin, Missouri and Iowa.
- Flood Control Act authorizes Smithville dam and lake, Little Platte River, Mo.
- Milford dam and lake, Republican River, Kan., is placed in operation.
- Corps of Engineers issues license to the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission to administer a wildlife management and public hunting area at Wilson Lake.
- Congress passes Federal Water Project Recreation Act.
- Kansas City District assists in the reactivation of Lake City Army Ammunition Plant.
- Kansas City District oversees rehabilitation and alteration projects at Sunflower Ordnance Works and the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant.

1966

- Bureau of the Budget implements Planning, Programming, Budgeting System.
- Civil Works Study Board releases report critical of Corps of Engineers.
- Tornadoes strike Topeka, Manhattan and other Kansas communities, and at the request of the Governor, the Kansas City District provides emergency and recovery assistance.