Deputy Commander Transfers

Lt. Col. Archie M. Doering, St. Paul District deputy commander since July 1982, will transfer in mid-January to Rapid City, S.D. In his new assignment, Lt. Col. Doering will be the professor of military science and head the Army ROTC program at the South Dakota School of Mines.

With this move, he will be returning to familiar territory. Lt. Col. Doering graduated from the School of Mines in 1963 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He later returned to the school as assistant professor of military science.

The St. Paul District's new deputy commander is Major David (Mike) Nelson, who is coming to St. Paul from Fort Belvoir. Major Nelson is scheduled to arrive in the district in mid-January.

Area Lockmasters Named

Three area lockmasters were selected as part of the reorganization of the locks and dams management system which became effective January 1. The area lockmasters are Arden Duval for Upper St. Anthony Falls through Lock and Dam No. 3, Wally Voss for locks and dams 4 through 6, and Lee Stenerson for locks and dams 7 through 10.

Among other changes in the locks and dams management system scheduled to occur is the gradual phasing out of assistant lockmaster positions, and the addition of head lock and dam operators. The lock and dam operators will gradually all be seasonally employed. Some seasonal lock and dam operators may be furloughed during the non-navigational season depending upon the work load and work year allocations. Permanent part time clerks will also be added to the new staffing system.

According to Bill Goetz, chief of the construction operations division, the reorganization is intended to improve the management system by reducing the work year effort and by saving money.

New Holiday

January 15 marks the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1986, the third Monday in January will become a national holiday in tribute to the legendary civil rights leader. King whose contributions toward racial equality, understanding and tolerance helped lead this nation out of the turmoil of the 1960's, was assassinated at the age of 39 in 1968.
Commander's Viewpoint

By Colonel Edward G. Rapp

New Starts
At a time when no one else is getting new starts because of budget constraints, the St. Paul District is. We received the go-ahead to start construction on the Velva feature of the Lake Darling project. The bids were opened in December and construction will start this spring. We also received several new planning starts for this year. We have an interesting study of flooding at Devils Lake, N.D., and another challenging analysis involving flood reduction measures in Canada to aid the U.S. Souris River loop.

Readiness
We must be ready for tomorrow, and tomorrow may not be a nice day. Both floods and war remain a probability. It takes continual effort to remind ourselves of the 1942 war and the 1965 flood and their dynamic impacts on the district. There have been many lesser events in our past and perhaps greater challenges in the future. Our challenge is to prevent them if we can, mitigate if we must.

I am pleased to report that our readiness is much improved. Each year we remove more towns and property from the flood plain. But there may be a time, maybe this spring, when we will once again have to mobilize in this preparation. We continue to work with governmental agencies and professional organizations such as the Society of American Military Engineers, the Associated General Contractors and Consulting Engineers Council of Minnesota to be able to get to the point of disaster "firsts with the mosts." Disaster response is the Corps of Engineers first line of business. And we are the first line of defense in any national disaster.

Regulatory Reform
We have made significant progress in this area. Some time ago, we saw that some of our procedures to implement the Clean Water Act were too involved and sometimes redundant with the rules of other agencies. We needed to take some of the procedural pressure off of people trying to get permits.

As a result, we have developed permitting agreements with the state of Minnesota to simplify the permit process. During the coming year, we will be working to develop similar permitting agreements for Wisconsin citizens.

Futures
Finally, we are looking to the future and to advances in technology to help us solve some of our water resource problems around the district.

Computers are not a substitute for people. Rather, new technologies present us with an array of tools which allow us to do our jobs better and more efficiently. The arrival of our micro computers in November was a major step toward our objective of utilizing automation and new technologies in solving the problems we face. Our journey toward becoming a "high tech" district will move further along in the near future when a second shipment of micro computers arrives in January.

Then, during the remainder of 1985, we should begin to see a significant payback to our investment in technology. Telemetry, remote sensing, geographic data display and computers will help us do a better job as "Keeper of the Waters." But machines are not our future, you are. And that brings us back to the continuing need for people of vision, talent and professionalism.

Our past accomplishments have been significant in all areas of the district, but that is history. 1985 offers new and exciting challenges for every one of us. "Essayons—let us try."

Here is wishing each of you a happy prosperous New Year.

Savings Bonds

The market-based rate for Series EE Savings Bonds issued between November 1, 1984 and April 30, 1985 is 10.94 percent for the first semiannual interest period. Older Series EE and E Bonds and U.S. Saving Notes will also receive this market-based rate for six-month interest periods during this time frame.

The average yield for bonds held since the beginning of the market-based interest program is 10 percent. Average yields change each May and November. The minimum yield on Bonds held five years or longer is 7.5 percent.
S.A.M.E. Luncheon

The Society of American Military Engineers will be holding their monthly luncheon on January 17 at the St. Paul Athletic Club from 11:30 to 1:00. The menu includes Chicken Ala King, potato, salad, beverage, tax and gratuity for $7.90. To make reservations, please contact Terry Putzenreuter at 725-7565 or Jan Graham at 725-7370 no later than noon on January 16.

The key speaker will be Professor Theodore Galambos who was born in Budapest, Hungary. The topic will be about an eleven-story reinforced concrete frame in St. Louis that was subjected to controlled severe dynamic forces which caused extensive structural damage and drastic changes in the original dynamic properties.

Defense Environmental Restoration Program

Two projects under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) have been completed. The first project consisted of the removal of buried drums at the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordinance Plant in Fridley, Minn. After the soil and drums were tested for hazardous wastes, they were taken to disposal facilities outside of Minnesota. The second project included the removal of old diesel fuel from a storage tank at an abandoned Air Force radar station near Bagley, Minn. The storage tank was also removed.

DERP, once known as the Environmental Restoration Defense Account (ERDA) was established in 1983 under Public Law 98-212. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the DoD execution agent for implementation of DERP at property formerly used by the DoD. The program is designed to provide an environmental renewal of lands formerly owned by the Department of Defense.

The St. Paul District was authorized to investigate 35 out of 60 possible properties in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Thirteen of the investigated sites have the potential for construction work. The district is now waiting for funding for an estimated $400,000 worth of construction work on at least four more DERP projects in 1985.

“Most of these sites were difficult to locate and evaluate,” said Dave Raash, project manager. “In the beginning the sites were just items on our recyclable property lists. Field investigators did an excellent job in researching real estate history and dealing with current property owners.”

Leadership

“Leadership remains the key ingredient that enables our Army to meet successfully the challenges we face,” said top Army leaders. Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh Jr. and Army Chief of Staff General John A. Wickham Jr. have designated “Leadership” as the Army theme for 1985.

“Leadership is vital for melding Army members’ aspirations, skills and capabilities into an organization able to deter, fight and win in defense of our national interest,” they said in a joint proclamation issued in December.

“Nothing more than the leader’s rank or organizational level, each leader has the same obligation. That obligation is to inspire and develop excellence in individuals and organizations; train members towards professional competency; instill members with a spirit to win; see to their needs and well being; and to set standards that will be emulated by those they lead. The bond between the leader, the led, and the organization must produce leaders who are grounded in the fundamentals, yet responsive to new ideas. We call on all of you to make this theme of “Leadership” a reality in the Total Army.”

Don’t be a let-George-do-it type. If you spot a hazardous condition correct it immediately or if that’s not possible report it at once.
JANUARY
Eight barges, each weighing 2,500 tons, became stuck in the ice in Pool 7 of the Mississippi River as they were trying to go downstream.

The barges were freed from the ice in Pool 7 in February.

FEBRUARY
The annual conference of the District Park Managers was held. The purpose of the conference was to give the managers new ideas for programs and to review the changes in procedures.

MARCH
Chief of Engineers awards were given to Lock and Dam No. 1 and Lake Rebecca and Natural Area in Hastings, Minn.
Blackhawk Park near Lynxville, Wis. was not opened on schedule due to safety hazards on county access roads.
Ice jams at Lock and Dam No. 2 created problems for locking barges through. The ice jams had to be locked through first before barges could enter the lock chamber.

APRIL
The St. Paul District participated in a world-wide command post exercise called “Night Train.”
A barge hit a roller gate at Lock and Dam No. 3 and caused extensive damage.
The St. Paul Post, Society of American Military Engineers (S.A.M.E.) hosted the 64th annual National S.A.M.E. meeting in St. Paul.

MAY
Safety issues were resolved with the state of Wisconsin and Vernon County and Blackhawk Park opened just in time for the Memorial Day weekend.

JUNE
The Engineer Day Picnic was held at Phalen Park to celebrate the 209th anniversary of the Corps of Engineers.
The Reeds Landing/Chippewa Delta dredging project, part of the GREAT implementation plan, began removing 1.3 million cubic yards of dredged material at an estimated cost of $2.5 million.

JULY
Winnibigoshish, Leech and Pokegama dams celebrated their 100th birthdays.
The Eau Galle Recreation Area in Spring Valley, Wis., completed the construction of picnic shelters for the day use areas.
The Dredge Thompson was called in for emergency dredging when barges became grounded near Crats Island. The dredging was completed in two and a half days.

Three Pokegama dam tenders, retirees Carl Anderson and Henry Sharp and park manager Clarence Bernardson chatted during the Headwaters Centennials.
Photo by Lyse Nicklay
AUGUST
New Handicapped camping units were opened at Cross Lake.

An exhibit featuring the Regulatory Functions program was displayed at the Minnesota State Fair.

A press conference and tour was held at Reads Landing on the dredging project.

Lyle Micheals and William Mountain rescued a woman who had fallen from her boat in the lock chamber at Lock and Dam No. 4.

SEPTEMBER
Construction of six wing dams were completed near Lansing, Iowa, at an estimated cost of one million dollars. These wing dams will reduce the dredging requirements at this location and provide a safer channel alignment for vessels approaching the Lansing highway bridge.

A dedication ceremony was held at Prairie du Chien, Wis., to commemorate the completion of the Corps' first large-scale nonstructural flood protection project. The cost of the project was $4.6 million.

OCTOBER
The Corps of Engineers and the Minnesota Disaster Emergency Service held a joint flood fight exercise at Crookston, Minn.

Changes to the nationwide permit program was published. It will eliminate authorization of insignificant fills in headwater and isolated waters while requiring prompt response to applicants.

The Lake City Small Boat Harbor was completed on time with a total cost of $1,659,372, a savings of $242,000 from the original cost estimate.

High-mast lights costing $421,142 were placed at Locks and Dams No. 2 through 10. The lights are intended to improve the night vision of barges entering the lock chambers.

NOVEMBER
The dedication of the new Communication Center in Hastings, Minn., was held. The cost to construct the center was $235,923.

Lock and Dam No. 1 won a Federal Design Achievement Award.

The St. Paul District donated more than $17,435 to charities in the metro area and around the country during the Combined Federal Campaign.

The District began to receive microcomputers.

DECEMBER
The Holiday Party was held at The Inn in St. Paul with a great turn out from retirees.
Engineering Division

by Pete Fischer

There are several areas in which the engineering division intends to place its focus during 1985. First of all, I feel that it is important that we concentrate on maintaining the high quality and standard that the Corps has been known for over the years. In order to do this, we must keep our professional capabilities and integrity.

Over the last two years, our focus has been on new starts. This year, I intend to keep that focus on new starts like Rochester, Bassett Creek and Chaska. We will strive for a local coop agreement on cost sharing and on completing the designs and plans and specifications for these projects. By doing all this, we will be ready to begin construction when funds are authorized.

The designs for the Velva project in North Dakota are almost complete and construction will begin in spring. This action keeps the overall Souris River project on track. I’m anticipating completion of final designs for the State Road and Ebner Coulees, along with the plans and specifications for the first phase this year.

Due to an increase in workload, we will be hiring additional staff to our division. However, the new staff will still not be enough for us to complete all our work on time. This means that approximately 40 percent of our workload will be contracted out to outside architectural-engineering firms. This is going to create a big challenge for us this year because we will lose some control over our projects. We will have to monitor these contracts closely to make sure that they maintain quality while staying within the time frame and that they stay within the cost we are committed to.

Al-Anon

If someone in your life drinks too much, Al-Anon may be able to help you. Al-Anon is an anonymous fellowship for friends and relatives of alcoholics. To obtain information on the time and place of an Al-Anon meeting near you, call 725-2208. Al-Anon members may also be contacted confidentially through the Public Affairs Office at 725-7505.

Musical Group Forms

by Stan Kummer, PD-PS

Musical entertainment and appreciation in our district has grown since a group of singers accompanied by a pianist entertained us at the 1981 Holiday Party. This year, music led by four instrumentalists and 12 singers drew spontaneous participation by many party-goers to fill “The Inn” with holiday caroling.

Now, other district friends have expressed interest in joining the music group. We currently have 11 instrumentalists and 13 singers interested in forming a music group. The band intends to keep-up the holiday spirit, momentum and good fellowship by scheduling practice sessions beginning in January. The singers will pick-up on this dedication when the “downbeat” sounds for the next district social event. How about the 1985 summer picnic? What potential! Food, visiting, program and recreation made more enjoyable by the melodic strains of our own music group.

If you are interested in joining this fun group or wish additional information, contact Stan Kummer (5994) or Greg Courteau (5991).

Think about what your drinking can cost you . . . and your family.
Awards

Congratulations to the following employees who have received awards during 1984.

Sustained Superior Performance Awards

Allen, Annabelle (DC-F); Baures, John (C-O-M field); Berg, Kevin (MRPO); Bercut, Lee (ED-GH); Bentsch, Timothy (Blackhawk); Bonnemolle, Donal (ED-D); Bronner, Carl (FORS); Calhoun, John (DC-PR); Campbell, Philip (EEO); Devendorf, Randall (PD-ER); Dobruck, Stuart (ED-GH); Dojak, Joseph (CO-PO); Elshardt, Martin (CO-PO Gull Lake); Engel, Terry (PD-FS); Englund, Thomas (L/D #7); Ericsson, Dennis (CO-PO); Fitting, Ronald (L/D #5A); Foley, Patrick (ED-GH); Gaines, Suzanne (PD-ES); Galvis, Rachel (L/D #7); Gieson, Allen (ED-D); Greene, James (L/D #9); Hafner, Elizabeth (CCOCT); Harris, Kenneth (ED-GH); Harmon, Stephen (L/D #2); Herman, Wally (CO-PO Pin); Hinde, Sherren, Gary (L/D #19); Irwin, Jack (L/D #9); Johnson, Harlan (C-O-M); Kreisel, David (Dredge Thompson); Kueck, Martine (CO-CT): LaPoint, Larry (Marketer); Larravi, Larry (DC); Lazenby, Steven (SAF L/D); Lewis, Joan (CO-PO); Mathews, Alfred (L/D #5); McDonald, William (L/D #7); McNally, Edward (PD-ES); Morlan, Kostantin (ED-D); Mosner, James (ED-D); Munson, Gilbert (L/D #6); Murphy, James (ED-GH); Nelson, Byron (ED-D); O'Brien, Ronald (Com. Center); Oshnes, Thomas (CO-PO); Otto, Richard (CO-PO); Parnell, Judith (DC-PR); Peck, David (Dredge Thompson); Powell, Donald (PD-FS); Pream, Jeannette (CO-PO); Quast, Becky (PD-FS); Rense, Rodney (L/D #5A); Rogers, Jowel (CO-CT); Rosenberg, Allan (CO-PO); Ruyak, James (CO-PO); Ryan, James E. (L/D #1); Ryan, John (L/D #10); Schaffner, David (WAC); Schmidt-Ackert, Elmer (ED-GH); Schwabe, Michael (CO-C); Seigel, Allan (ED-GH); Shetka, Roy (CO-PO); Spitzak, Charles (ED-DS); Spychalla, William (PD-ES); Thurean, Scott (ED-GH); Vickman, Patrick (Winona); Vyncko, William (ED-D); Vosler, Robert (PD-FS); Vosler, Law (CO-CC); Waake, Weisz (L/D #4); Weber, Parry (L/D #1); Willis, Kelby (ED-GH); Wolfs, Donald (Dredge Thompson); Zeigler, Eugene (L/D #9); Ziemer, Mark (ED-GH).

Exceptional Performance Ratings Awards

Allen, Annabelle (DC-F); Anderson, Dennis (PD-ER); Anfang, Robert A. (PD-ER); Baures, John (C-O-M Field); Beatty, Richard (PD-ER); Berg, Kevin (MRPO); Boncouer, David (PD-FS); Blackwell-Kraft, Denise (CO-ER); Calhoun, John (DC-PR); Daovic, Gregory (ED-D); Demmers, Randall (PD-ER); Drzewolski, Barry (PD-FS); Elshardt, Martin (Gull Lake); Engel, Terry (PD-FS); Emes, Gerry D. (PD-D); Erickson, Dennis (CO-PO); Esperson, Robert (Gull Lake); Foley, Patrick (ED-GH); Forsberg, Alan (PD-FS); Forsyth, James (PD-FS); Gaines, Suzanne (PD-ES); Gieson, Allen (ED-D); Hanson, Curtis (Lac Qui Parle); Hecesegod, Walter (CO-PO); Hitzklick, Marvin (CO-M); Irwin, Jack (L/D #9); Johnson, Harlan (C-O-M); Keys, Arlee (CO-PO); Ketel, John (ED-FR); Kleinhans, John (ED-D); Kreisel, David (Dredge Thompson); Langley, Rita (PD-C); Lewis, Joan (CO-PO); Marx, Mary (CO-FR); McNally, Edward (PD-FS); Miller, David (PD-FS); Monson, Helen (ED-D); Mosner, James (ED-D); Oshnes, Thomas (CO-PO); Paleel, Gary (PD-ER); Parnell, Judith (DC-F); Peck, David (Dredge Thompson); Pyke, Richard (PD-FR); Peterson, Margaret (ED); Quast, Becky (PD-FS); Rooney, Jody (PD-FS); Saaberg, David (Lac Traverse); Schaffner, David (Dredge Thompson); Schulte, Clifford (ED-GH); Schoneman, Mary (PD-FS); Shyne, John (PD-ER); Smith, Catherine (DC-F); Stackowiak, Robert (DC-F); Stadelman, James (PO); Vyncko, William (ED-D); Vickman, Patrick J. (Winona); Vogt, William (ASG); Whiting, Robert (PD-ER); Wilcox, Daniel (PD-FS); Wolfe, Donald (Dredge Thompson); Ziemer, Mark (ED-GH).

Quality Step Increase Awards

Daovic, Gregory (ED-GH); Esperson, Robert W. (Gull Lake); Forsberg, Alan (PD-FS); Hasebo, Curtis (Lac Qui Parle); Keys, Arlee (CO-PO); Langley, Rita (PD-C); Peterson, Margaret (ED); Saaberg, David R. (Lac Traverse); Schulte, Clifford (ED-GH); Stadelman, James (PO).

Special Acts Awards

Adams, Victoria (AS-G); Blackstone, John (ED-M); Edd, Sheldon (Winona); Forsyth, James (PD-FS); Green, Allen (ED-D); Gross, Dale (Winona); Heide, Bruce (ED-M); Hildeman, Norman (PD-FS); Holker, James (PD-FS); Johnson, Eric (Winona); Keister, Beth (Winona); Kliebetscher, John (ED-M); Kraft, Alan (PD-D); McCleary, Martin (PD-FP); Medas, Valerie (EP-F); Mosner, James (ED-D); Nageshwar, Karon (PD-FS); Okrenglis, David (ED-D); Ostrover, Walter (Winona); Paleel, Gary (PD-ER); Pedretti, Marilyn (L/D #10); Pream, Lois (PD-FP); Schoneman, Mary (PD-FS); Shorridge, Melissa (Winona); Sok, Natalie (Winona); Smith, Luke (L/D #10); Snyder, Russell (PD-FS); Star, Franklin (PD-FS); Steenerson, Charles (L/D #9); Stone, Robert (L/D #3); Thomsen, Ann (CO-C); Thomsen, John (EP); Vickman, Patrick (Winona); Yost, Joseph (PD-RC).

People

Resignations: Ken Kiefer, mail clerk, (AS-M); Stephen McCarty, clerk, (AS-G); David Motzko, secretarytyping, (CO-Rochester); Lyle Sopkiwski, construction inspector, (Mankato Resident Office); Susan Lawrence, purchasing agentty, (SP).

Conversations: Amy Bretto, clerk-typist, (ED-GH). cursor

Promotions: Terrence Humbert, civil engineer, (PD-FS); David Kriestel, tender engineer, (L/D); Condreus Thompson; Natalie Sia, technical support clerk, (Winona Resident Office).

Reassignments: Mary Muraski, social scientist to writer-editor, (ED-M); Sheryl Wold, supervisor personnel staffing specialist from overseas-Germany, (EP-E).

Births: Lori and Dan Krumholz (CO-M) became parents of a 8 lb. 4 oz. son on November 6. They named the baby Tyler Jameson.
Construction Operations Division

by Bill Goetz

There are many on-going missions for the construction operations division during 1985. We must not only keep traffic moving on the waterways, protect the integrity of the nation's waters and support the national defense, but we must also maintain, build and improve the district's various structures and sites.

Our aging locks and dams need regular inspection and repair and in 1985 we are planning major work on locks and dams no. 2 and 10. We'll be building loading docks at three sites and a handicapped fishing facility at another.

We see new beginnings and happy endings ahead in construction. Zippel Bay at Lake of the Woods and Velva Stages 1 and 2 are ready to go. While Enderlin, Halstad and Devil's Lake flood control projects are on-going, the Winona and Mankato flood control projects will be winding down.

We expect to handle a number of contracts this coming year in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP). Under this program, the Corps recently identified former Department of Defense installations which require clean-up to restore them to their original condition. This most often involves demolition and removal of debris and potential pollutants.

The master plan will be put to work on two of the district's recreation areas. Improvements at Sandy Lake and Blackhawk recreation areas will be funded mainly by user fees collected from campers.

The changes in regulations for Minnesota and Wisconsin make it more important than ever that we keep the public informed of our regulatory program to avoid costly misunderstandings. We expect to develop maps that will aid us in making more accurate jurisdictional decisions. We will implement any practices that will continue to reduce the time needed to process permit applications.

In 1985, we will be continuing our long-term channel maintenance planning that will be aimed at a more organized approach to dredge material placement that will be acceptable to all agencies involved in the management of the river's resources. A good example is the Read's Landing and Chippewa Delta project that will be completed in June. This project should result in less frequent, more predictable dredging needs and safer navigation. Removal of material from the historic disposal site has restored its capacity for an estimated 15 years.

In Pool 1, where dredged material disposal has been a serious issue for the past two years, the district has reached an agreement with the city of Minneapolis that will assure long-term permanent and emergency placement sites in the future. Site preparation measures planned for 1985 include the excavation of material from the emergency sites and the construction of retaining walls and a barge unloading facility at the permanent site. The plan in lower Pool 5 is to use the dredged material generated by channel maintenance to rehabilitate the huge Weaver Bottoms backwater complex.

The wing dams that were installed at Lansing, Iowa, last year will be closely monitored to enable us to evaluate the effectiveness of these structures.

Other locations will be studied in 1985 in our efforts to reduce dredging requirements by modifying or building new channel control structures.

The William A. Thompson, the only Corps operated cutterhead dredge on the inland waterways, is currently moored in St. Louis where it will be used for emergency dredging this winter. The Thompson is scheduled for regular dredging in the St. Paul, Rock Island and St. Louis districts this year. The Dredge Dubuque will be doing some experimental work for the North Central Division on the Illinois Waterway and also some dredging in the St. Paul District.

Sandblasting and painting jobs are scheduled for Eau Galle Dam, Highway 75 Dam and locks and dams no. 3, 8 and Lower St. Anthony Falls. Other repair work has been scheduled for various locks and dams throughout the year. We will also continue to rehabilitate the navigation aids on the Mississippi River for the Coast Guard.

I have mentioned just a few of the projects for the construction operations division during 1985, but our workload contains much more than this. We aim to keep a high standard of quality and to give the best value for the bucks. We will continue to serve the public in the consistently courteous, competent manner that makes us proud to be associated with the St. Paul District.

BEFORE YOU BUY, GIVE US A TRY

Call your Procurement & Supply Division. Contact: Paul French Ext. 7611 TODAY ONLY
Assistant Treasurer Named

Lt. Col. Charles H. Carlson, a Corps of Engineers reservist assigned to the St. Paul District, has been selected by the Mechanical Contractors Association of America as assistant treasurer and member of the executive committee. Col. Carlson served as the Deputy District Engineer for Military Construction during the Mobex 85 exercise last fall.

Do You Know?

- World’s highest parachute jump: 102,800 feet
- Percent of U.S. crops lost to insects in 1983: 12
- Percent of U.S. crops lost to weeds in 1983: 13
- Number of recreation days of use at St. Paul District projects in 1984: 15,435,000
- Percent of college students who are women: 52
- Amount of material dredged from the navigation channel in the St. Paul District during 1984: 866,726 cubic yards
- Largest U.S. Savings Bond issued: $10,000
- Number of times Spencer Tracy was nominated for an Oscar: 9
- Flood damages prevented by St. Paul District flood control projects during 1984: $3.9 million

I DON’T BELIEVE IN BANKS EITHER.

Emergency Management

by Ben Wopat

During 1985, the emergency management division will continue to prepare the district to respond to natural or national disasters and to maintain an appropriate security posture.

Our environment is not entirely predictable, but history does provide numerous indicators of nature’s intensity and probability of various threats - whether it is climatological or man-made. Therefore, common sense dictates that we should utilize history’s lessons in drafting plans to avoid or mitigate the consequences of the perceived threats.

To ensure that we are ready to fight floods, we will be conducting in-house training classes, establishing district Standard Operating Procedures for operations and revising the district flood fight plan.

A complementary and significant action is the initiation of a Levee Condition Survey Program in Fiscal Year 85. This program will evaluate the condition of emergency levees constructed during past flood fights with Pe-99 funds. It is a one-time inspection that is intended to provide local communities with an assessment of the capability of their emergency levee and to provide an “appreciable and dependable protection from irregular and unusual rises in water levels.” The program is being managed jointly by the engineering and emergency management divisions.

Our readiness for national emergencies will be increased in FY85 with the publication of a revised district Continuity of Operations Plan, completion of a five-year mobilization cross-training program, the development of a Project Mobilization Plan for each Corps operated project and the revision of existing Memorandum of Understanding with the Omaha District.

A significant mobilization preparedness activity is the expansion and refinement of the St. Paul MacroAnalysis which the planning division is preparing. The engineering division will continue to develop an Installation Support Book and a Mobilization Master Plan for the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant.

In security and law enforcement, we will be concentrating our efforts on adapting the recently completed comprehensive security plan for locks and dams, Fountain City Service Base and the communications center to the district office and secondary field facilities. Implementation of the new plan will be undertaken in accordance with a five-year security upgrading plan. This plan will be developed by the construction-operations and emergency management divisions.

Overall, FY85 should prove to be another interesting and productive year for the emergency management division. The year’s end should find us better prepared to fight the floods, to respond to mobilization missions and to secure our assets.

Winter Workouts

Some people aren’t as active during the winter months, so when they do exercise it’s important that they get maximum benefits. The Tufts University Diet and Nutrition Letter says that the timing of exercise can be important to weight control, and that exercising a short time after eating burns off more calories than exercising on an empty stomach.

Toastmasters

Toastmasters is an international organization with a club that meets every Thursday noon on the sixth floor in the PEDC rooms. If you are interested in improving yourself and having fun, come join us for a free cup of coffee and conversation.
Planning Division

by Lou Kowalski

We anticipate another busy year for the planning division in 1985. For the past several years our planning emphasis has been increasing in small projects and in long-range basin planning.

As a result of this emphasis, small flood control projects are now under construction at Enderlin, Devils Lake and Halstad, and a small boat harbor was recently constructed at Lake City. In addition, the district completed a number of smaller streambank protection projects.

During 1985, we will continue our efforts toward constructing projects at Argusville, Argyle, Black Bear-Miller lakes, Lake Pulaski and Zippel Bay. In addition, we will place special emphasis on accelerating our studies for Gilmore Creek at Winona.

Our work on long-range basin planning will continue for the Minnesota River and Red River of the North basins. In addition, we expect to start new basin studies on Devil’s Lake and the Souris River.

The Souris study is unique in that the primary emphasis will be on examining flood reduction structures in Canada that will provide benefits in the US. This study is very important because of its relationship to the Lake Darling project now under design. This study is on a very tight schedule which requires it to be completed in early 1986.

The Devil’s Lake study is significant because of the effects of any potential water diversion to Canada and because of the role of Devil’s Lake in the overall Garrison Diversion Project.

Increased workload in the environmental, economic and recreational areas from construction-operations and engineering divisions has raised the contracting-out requirements for the planning division. With our experience in land-use planning along the Mississippi River, we are pursuing a contract to do the recreational and land-use planning for the three-rivers corridor here in the Twin Cities.

During this year, we will complete our plans for mobilization and emergency preparedness. All planning division employees are being assigned to specific mobilization positions. During 1985, we will be identifying any training needed to make them proficient in their mobilization assignments. This will require an analysis of employees’ past training and skills — both job and non-job related — to determine each employee’s best mobilization assignment. In this way, we hope to use the full capabilities of all our employees if we ever have to mobilize.

People Behind The Corps

“During the navigation season things can change from minute to minute,” said Dennis. “For instance, when something breaks down, we drop what we’re doing and begin to work with the field staff to get it repaired as soon as possible.”

For hobbies he enjoys collecting miniature vehicles and antique toys. He is also busy restoring a 1931 Model A Ford and a 1959 Edsel. The car Dennis prides himself most in is a 1966 Rambler which has won several trophies. Dennis also enjoys traveling. “I usually take three weeks at a time to jump in my car and travel around the country.”

“I really enjoy being with people and being able to help them whenever possible,” said Mary Kay Linder, secretary to Colonel Rapp. Mary Kay began working at the Corps in 1977 in the environmental resources branch. In 1982, she became the secretary to the chief of the planning division.

Since April of 1984, Mary Kay has been secretary in the executive office. “This position gives me the opportunity to be in the center of many activities in the district,” said Mary Kay. “I find my job very interesting and fun.”

“I believe that a secretary should become involved with what they are doing and why they are doing it,” she said. “It makes the job much more interesting.” The real honor for Mary Kay came when she was named Civil Servant of the Year in the service category for 1985. The award was made by the Twin Cities Federal Executive Board.

After work, Mary Kay keeps herself busy with her children’s school and sports activities. She is a member of the church bell choir and also enjoys singing in the choir.

Dennis Erickson

“I have some great employees in the field to work with,” said Dennis Erickson, chief of the locks and dams operations. “They are very dedicated to their work which makes my job easier.” Dennis, who began working for the Corps in 1969, graduated as a civil engineer from the Institute of Technology at the University of Minnesota.

“The field managers have a good teamwork relationship with their staff,” said Dennis. “They are open to new ideas and provide a good place to work and grow.”

Mary Kay Linder