Army Celebrates 210th Birthday

The U.S. Army was established as the Continental Army on June 14, 1775. The following resolution of the Continental Congress established the Army.

Resolution of the Continental Congress

"Resolved that six companies of expert riflemen be immediately raised in Pennsylvania, two in Maryland and two in Virginia; that each company consist of a captain, three lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, a drummer or trumpeter and 68 privates.

That each company, as soon as completed, shall march and join the Army near Boston, to be there employed as light infantry under the command of the chief officer in that Army.

That the pay of the officers and privates be as follows: a captain $20 per month; a lieutenant $15.50; a sergeant $8; a corporal $7.50; and privates almost $7 to find their own arms and clothes.

That the form of the enlistment be in the following words: Have this day, voluntarily enlisted myself as a soldier in the American Continental Army, for one year, unless sooner discharged; and I do bind myself to conform in all instances to such rules and regulations as are, or shall be, established for the government of said Army.

Upon motion resolved, that Mr. (George) Washington, Mr. (Philip) Schuyler, Mr. (Silas) Deane, Mr. (Thomas) Cushing and Mr. (Joseph) Howes be a committee to bring in a draft of rules and regulations for the government of the Army."

New Project Scheduled to Begin at Weaver Bottoms

"Over the years, the habitat in Weaver Bottoms has deteriorated," said Dan Krumholz, river resource coordinator. "A completed biological study shows that a strong flow of water from the main channel of the Mississippi River is entering through the side channels into the Bottoms. This flow deposits sand and sediment that is slowly killing the aquatic vegetation that fish and wildlife depend on for habitat.

Another part of the study shows that the lower end of the Bottoms receives strong southeast winds. These winds create turbulent waters that also prevents the growth of vegetation," Dan explained. To correct this problem, the Corps is in the process of developing a plan for implementing the rehabilitation of the Weaver Bottoms, which was a GREAT study recommendation.

Dennis Anderson, PD-FR, is the study manager for this phase of the project which involves extensive coordination with resource managers from other agencies. The Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperating agency on the project and is expected to participate in the construction and monitoring. Cliff Schlueter, ED-GH, is working with the Waterway Experiment Station on a hydraulic model for the rehabilitation.

"The model will hopefully answer questions as to what type of design is best suited to correct this problem and what the potential effects are on flood levels and sediment transport," Dan said.

"The Corps and other agencies are confident that islands are needed to break up the wind fetch and side channel closures are needed to reduce the flow and sediment deposition in the Bottoms. By constructing these islands, the vegetation would be able to re-establish and waterfowl habitat would improve in the Bottoms," Dan said. In addition to the habitat improvement, the project is expected to reduce dredging requirements, therefore providing benefits to the district's channel maintenance program. Construction on the project is scheduled to begin in 1986.

Old Timer's Lunch Planned

The 10th annual Old Timer's luncheon is scheduled for September 11. The luncheon will be held at the Prom Center, 1190 University Avenue in St. Paul. Watch Crosscurrents for further information.
CUSTOMER CARE is a term that you will be hearing a lot about in the coming days. From the Chief of Engineers on down, Corps managers are looking at how we do business with our customers and how we can improve customer satisfaction with our products.

Who are our customers? Who really are we working for? Who really provides products and services to these customers?

Our customers are the permit applicant, the family recreating, people in the floodplain, the boat captain transiting our locks, the shipper, the farmer getting his goods to world markets, lots of mayors and city engineers, the Congressional staffer, the Army/Air Force family, a host of professional societies and many more. We have customers who are not even born yet. Our customers even include the fish and wildlife that inhabit our project lands and waters.

Notice that these customers are not us. We do not serve us, we serve them. It is not the District Engineer that actually provides these services. It is you who are in direct contact with that family arriving at our park or lock. In that contact, we need to emphasize CUSTOMER CARE.

Care can be summarized like this:

C — Confidence:
Develop and maintain the confidence and the trust of our customers. All contacts with our customers must be based on honesty and openness. A customer is the most important person ever — in person, by mail or on the phone.

A — Attention:
Be responsive, follow up, avoid flip-off letters or responses which don’t really address the concerns of your customers. Treat your customers the way you would like to be treated as an individual. A customer is not someone with whom to argue or match wits.

R — Responsibility:
This involves duty and accountability. We need to be ready to share the bad news as well as the good news with our customers. A customer is not dependent on us. We serve them and are dependent on them for our existence.

E — Excellence:
We need to produce a quality product, on time, within budget and safely. A customer tells us what he wants. It is our job to manage the project in such a way as to serve the best interests of both the customer and the United States.

Generally, we do a good job, but we can do better. I challenge all St. Paul employees to re-examine the work they do in terms of customers served and products and services provided. If you are not sure how these concepts apply to your work, ask your supervisor or section chief. It is important for every employee to understand the basics of Customer Care.

I know that many district employees have been following the concepts of customer care without calling it that. That is one of the reasons why St. Paul District has continued for years to be one of the best districts in the Corps. But now we need to develop a passion for excellence. “Best” is not necessarily good enough. Followed by every district employee, Customer Care can make St. Paul not just “one of the best” but truly “the district of excellence.”

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**Property Inventory**

John Mena, from the office of administrative services, will be conducting a property inventory of each office within the next few months. John will be comparing property loan receipts with the equipment in each office. The inventory will help ensure that all government property is properly accounted for.

“One problem in the district is locating property. For instance, a typewriter may be issued to one office, but when an inventory is done that typewriter is no longer there. It is very important that each person who signs a property loan receipt know where that property is at all times, because that person is responsible for it,” John said. “If a piece of equipment is no longer needed and is given to another office, make sure the hand receipt is charged. Remember whoever signs for a piece of equipment is responsible for it no matter who uses it.”
210th Anniversary Message

This month we celebrate two very important anniversaries. On the 14th we mark the Army's 210th year and on the 16th, the Corps' 210th.

As a nation, we've been united for more than 200 years. Unfolding one after another, those years extracted military and civilian greatness that only courageous actions and lonely decisions render.

During the Revolutionary War, pursuit for the rights, privileges and responsibilities of free people triggered our commitment to act. Today, we are still committed to those same ideals. Much has changed, but the basic commitment continues.

Our commitment to the security of our nation triggered our mission on the battlefield as part of the combined armed team and our mission to provide engineering support to the Army, the Air Force and to other mammoth national tasks. Our commitment to the lives and livelihood of our citizens fuels our missions of thoughtful development of our water resources. Our commitment to our soldiers, our customers and our neighbors inspires the qualities we bring to these missions: our professionalism, our enthusiasm, our determination, our caring and our integrity.

With the fielding of the light division and modern weapons systems, Army Engineers now work within the framework of national support for strong, modernized, revitalized military. We are taking full advantage of that support to make up for lost time in building and repairing facilities for the training, readiness and sustainability of our Armed Forces, both here and abroad.

Reduced civil works resources pose a challenge for the future, but we in the Corps are no strangers to challenge. We will require enlightened leadership, selfless dedication to excellence, and thoroughgoing professionalism by all of us. The nation will not lose sight of the need for continued public investment in wisely chosen water resource projects which promote future economic growth, reindustrialization, and strong agriculture and energy resource postures.

This month we celebrate the victory and the fortitude and the commitment of those who formed our first Army. Their willingness to sacrifice ("essayons") and unity of purpose set in motion the beginning of a nation. They gave us the chance we needed to realize our potential. Now, more than ever, we must be mindful of that legacy and to the need to produce a product that reinforces the reputation for quality that we in the Corps have earned over the years.

E.R. Heiberg III
Chief of Engineers

Reads Landing Project Nears Completion

The Reads Landing Dredging Project, which began in April 1984, is scheduled to be completed by early July. "The Corps is in the process of evaluating the effectiveness of dredging a sediment trap at the Chippewa River delta," said Dan Krumholz, river resource coordinator. "A survey taken this spring indicates significant filling of the trap since it was dredged last fall. However, the trap should still be effective in catching the material before it enters the navigation channel."

The project has been developed based on one of the recommendations of the Great River Environmental Action Team study that was completed in 1980. It involves dredging 1.5 million cubic yards of material from the main channel, the Chippewa River delta and from a former disposal site across the river from Reads Landing, Minn. The total cost of the project is approximately $2.5 million.

According to Dan the project is regarded as a potential long-term solution to navigation and environmental problems associated with channel maintenance at this location.

Notice

Farewell Luncheon Planned

A farewell luncheon is planned for Col. Edward Rapp on July 2. The luncheon will be held at the Athletic Club at 11:30.

Change of Command


Open Enrollment

The office of Personnel Management announced an open enrollment period for Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI). The enrollment opened June 1 and ends July 1. According to Debi Busch, from the Personnel Office, all enrollments or changes must be into the Technical Service Branch no later than July 1.

How to catch a thief.

It's a lot like catching a weasel. They're very sneaky. The trick is, you can't catch 'em if you don't see 'em. So how do you see 'em?

Start looking. See, you and your neighbors should watch out for each other. And when you see something suspicious, call the cops, fast. So the cops can act. Fast.

To learn how to catch a thief—call your local police or sheriff. More on weasels later.

TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME
Jim Kursu, chief of Program Development, was always ready at the briefings to answer questions on funding and budgets.

Pete Fischer, chief of Engineering Division, points out a feature of the Rochester project to Colonel Briggs. Bob Post, assistant chief of engineering (left), and Dale Mazar, project manager for Rochester, participated in the Rochester briefing.

New DE Visit

Colonel Joseph Briggs, scheduled to take over leadership of the St. Paul District on July 8, spent a week at the district office in late April.

In a whirlwind first-look at the St. Paul District, he and Colonel Rapp met with North Dakota Governor George Sinner and key state officials in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Colonel Briggs was also briefed by key staff from Construction-Operations, Engineering, Planning and Emergency Management.

Colonel Briggs is currently serving as a military assistant to the Defense Science Board, which is part of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering in Washington, D.C. He has been in that assignment since August 1983.

He has earned a bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from Hampton...
District

Institute in Hampton, Va., and a master's degree in civil engineering with a geotechnical emphasis from the University of California at Berkeley. Colonel Briggs is also a graduate of the Naval War College and the Army War College.

During his career, Colonel Briggs has commanded both an engineering company and a battalion, served as a tactical officer at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and worked as a research and development technician with the Nuclear Cratering Group, a part of the Explosive Excavation Research Lab at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California. He also served in Vietnam as an executive officer with an engineering battalion.

Colonel Briggs is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y. He and his wife, Rebecca, have three children: Joseph, 22; Deidra, 16; and Damon, 12.

During a break between briefings, Colonel Briggs talks with Mary Kay Linder, Executive Office secretary (seated), Michael Weburg, CO-RE, Bill Goetz, chief of Construction-Operations Division, and Dennis Cin, chief of Regulatory Functions Branch.

Colonel Briggs listens to project manager Dave Raasch's briefing on the Bassett Creek Project. Planning, Engineering and Construction-Operations divisions briefed the Colonel on key projects and activities in their areas of responsibilities.
Frazil Ice Causes

Ice Jams

Frazil ice was the main topic of discussion during the floodfight exercise held in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. on May 2-3. Dr. Guenther Frankenstein from the Corps’ Cold Regions Research and Engineering Lab addressed Wisconsin Division of Emergency Government (DEG) and Corps officials about this topic.

“An ice jam is usually caused by frazile ice. The ice forms when water reaches below freezing temperatures. This tiny, lacy ice sticks to anything as it floats downstream. Most of the frazile ice collects where a stream enters a lake or a larger body of water and creates an ice jam,” Dr. Frankenstein said. “When warm temperatures arrive, the spring runoff will flood the land around the ice jam.”

Solutions to the ice jam problems given by Dr. Frankenstein included ice dusting (dropping sand or soil particles on top of the ice). The particles absorb the sun’s rays and melt through the ice to weaken it. Another solution is to dig a trench through the center of the ice jam to relieve pressure from spring run-off. Constructing a wooden fence across the stream will also stop the frazile ice and break it up before it goes further on downstream where it can build-up and cause damage.

Dr. Frankenstein went on to say that using dynamite for blasting usually does not help to solve the problem. “In order for dynamite to work, it must be placed below the ice and into the water. However, most of the time the stream is frozen to the bottom and there is no water below,” Dr. Frankenstein said.

On the second day of the floodfight exercises, Corps personnel gave a hands-on demonstration to the Wisconsin floodfighters. Three types of pumps—Crisafulli, a gas powered trash pump, and a Flygt pump—were used. In another demonstration Polyethylene was laid in wet and dry areas to protect the shoreline from erosion. The demonstration also involved the construction of a sandbag levee and a ring dike. Corps personnel then went on to show how to protect a flooded manhole from causing further flooding.

Don’t Forget the Picnic

The annual St. Paul District picnic is scheduled for Friday, June 21. The Corps will be celebrating Engineering Day and the Army’s 210th birthday. A charcoal grilled lunch, games and awards will be held at the Harriet Island Pavillion. There will also be entertainment by the Corps band. A name the band ballot box will be near the band for anyone interested.
GREAT Recommendations Incorporated into Maintenance Program

"The Great River Environmental Action Team (GREAT) recommended various locations for long-term disposal and dredged material placement along the Mississippi River. Many of these recommendations however were quite general. So before the district can implement many of the recommendations, more specific plans need to be prepared," said Dan Krumholz, river resource coordinator.

The GREAT study was completed in 1980. The members included state and federal agencies who have an interest or management responsibility for the Mississippi River. One goal of the GREAT study was to make beneficial use of dredged material. "One example is the Wilds Bend project below Fountain City, Wis. that was completed last year. The project was cost-shared by the Port Authority in Winona, Minn., who wanted the material hauled to a location down river to be used as landfill for commercial development," Dan said. "This was a unique project for the Corps. To the district's knowledge, no other district has been reimbursed for transporting dredged material a further distance beyond normal practices," he said.

The maintenance program only incorporates those recommendations that can be justified and are within the Corps' existing authority. "For example, GREAT recommended that dredged material be used in the rehabilitation of Weaver Bottoms on the Mississippi River in Pool 5. The Corps can justify this because it appears to be a less expensive dredged material placement alternative and it will potentially reduce future dredging requirements. The rehabilitation of the Bottom is also beneficiary to fish and wildlife habitat," Dan explained.

"Although the study is over, the Corps still continues to coordinate operation and maintenance plans on the river with the agencies that participated in the GREAT study. This gives the agencies an opportunity to add input and to express concerns about the placement sites and dredging methods in the Corps' plan. In return, the Corps has a chance to make revisions that may be needed before dredging. The states can also react faster in giving the district permits for placement of dredged material," Dan explained.

Dredging Updates

Wing Dams Very Successful

Last year six new wing dams were constructed near Lansing, Iowa. The wing dams are designed to reduce or eliminate shoaling and force the current into the center of the navigation channel. "The Corps, after conducting a survey this spring found that so far the project is very successful. However, continued monitoring is necessary before any definite conclusions can be made," Dan said.

Dredged Material Used to Expand Airport

The Dredge Thompson recently completed a dredging project at the St. Paul Barge Terminal. The material will be used by the Metropolitan Airport Commission to construct a new runway and to use as fill in the surrounding area.

Corps Searches for Long-Term Disposal Sites

The Corps is continuing to develop long-term plans for dredging locations. "Some areas of the river require more dredging than others. And it's at these locations that the Corps will concentrate on to find long term placement sites," Dan said.

"If emergency dredging is required, the Corps responds as quickly as possible. Usually, if the Thompson is close to the area, it will do the dredging unless other equipment such as the Derrickbarge Hauser or a contractor dredge is available and can be mobilized to the site sooner. The district's main goal is to keep the navigation channel open by using the quickest means possible," Craig Hinton, chief of the Mississippi River Section said. Emergency dredging does not mean setting aside the district's commitment to protecting the environmental resources. At most of the critical dredging locations, sites have been designated and constructed for emergency situations.

Corps Gives Public Dredged Material

"At the end of the dredging season, the Corps sends a notice to potential users of the dredged material identifying locations where material is available. The users can remove the material free of charge," Dan explained.

Thompson Dredges on the St. Croix

The St. Paul District's Dredge Thompson recently completed a project on the St. Croix River. About 60,000 cubic yards of material was dredged from the mouth of the Kinnickinnic River at Mile 6 on the St. Croix. "The sand and sediment from the Kinnickinnic has been settling in the St. Croix reducing water depth for commercial navigation," Craig Hinton, chief of the Mississippi River Section said.

The dredged material will be used by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to improve the facilities at the Kinnickinnic State Park in Wisconsin.
Chris Hack (DC-M) uses the AT&T computer in the Learning Center to practice using the Lotus 1-2-3 program.

Anyone interested in this program may contact the Training and Development Branch at 725-7517.

Photo by Pats Banki

ADP User News

ADP Center Searches for Maximum Use

Microcomputers have become an increasingly important part of the St. Paul District’s automation plan. “As more microcomputers are placed into the different levels of the organization, the ADP Center is searching for ways to achieve maximum use of the microcomputer technology,” Leo Greer, chief of the ADP Center said.

Recent operational and organizational changes within the ADP Center have enabled a computer operator to be available to assist users from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. each working day.

According to Leo, downtime on the Harris has been reduced significantly through the extra efforts of the operations section. The Codex Front End Processor (FEP) has been upgraded to allow for a more efficient dial-on access for users. “More improvements will be seen, when the Original/Answer Full Duplex modem and automatic calling unit card arrives and is installed,” Leo added.

Monthly Seminars

Monthly seminars are being sponsored by the ADP Center. The first seminar was held in May called “Micros for the Novice.” The June seminar will be of special interest to PC Coordinators and TAs. This seminar will discuss security issues for both mainframe and microcomputers.

Programming Work Request

A Programming Work Request (PWR) has been adopted by the Center to insure that requests are completed in a reasonable and agreed timeframe. The PWR also keeps the user community informed of the status of the requested projects, services or programs.

Users may obtain the PWR form at the control window of the ADP Center. “After the form is completed, it will be evaluated, and then a programmer, analyst or operator is assigned to the project. A completion suspense date will also be set,” Leo said.

New Ideas

“I encourage all users to make suggestions which might increase the ADP Center’s staffs ability to support the user community in a more responsive way. I also want to know of any ADP related problems,” Leo said.