US Army Corps of Engineers®
St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

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Greene earns MacArthur Award for leadership

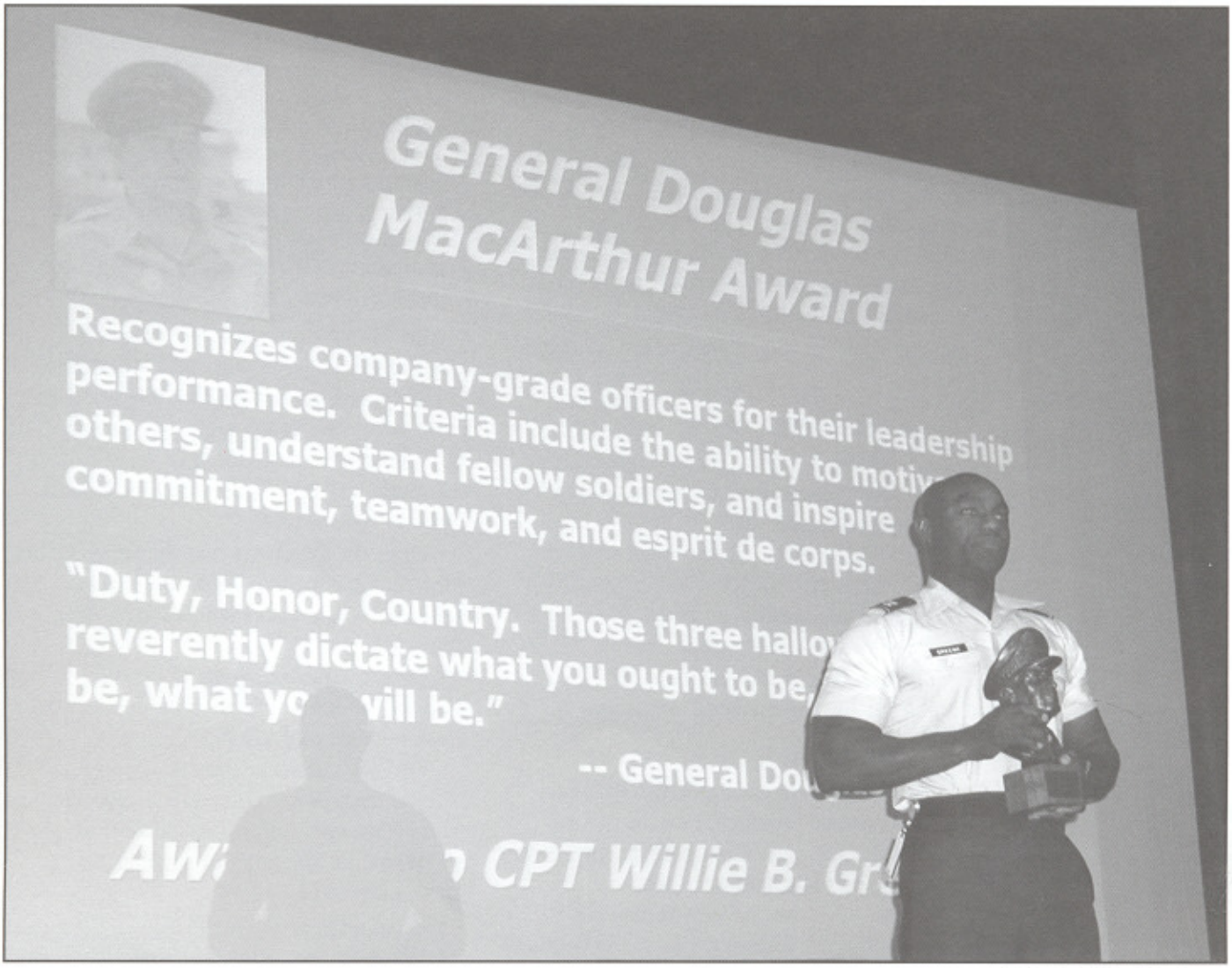


Photo by Peter Verstegen

Capt. Willie Greene holds the 15-pound bronze bust of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The award recognizes junior officers who demonstrate duty, honor and country. Greene received the award at a ceremony in the Pentagon on May 23. District Commander Col. Kenneth Kasprisin highlighted the honor at a June 4 Town Hall Meeting with district employees in St. Paul. More on page 3.

Join me in this Commitment

- Know your job
- Be situationally aware
- Be healthy
- Treat every individual with dignity and respect

Ask yourself:

- Is it good for my customer?
- Is it legal and ethical?
- Is it something I am willing to be accountable for?

If so, don't ask permission, you already have it.

– Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, commanding general and chief, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Corps' Strategic Vision

The people of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continue to provide vital services to the Army and the nation. You are deployed across the nation and around the world, working hard every day to do what is right. You are a critical part of the Army, from quality of live and readiness on installations to transformation of the force for the future, helping to share the Army for success. You are especially important to the well being of the nation, and the livelihood of most Americans, through developing, managing, protecting and improving out nation's water resources. You are striving to bring synergy between development and environment, seeking toe best economic, environmental and social solutions. You are doing the tough jobs. The nation will continue to look to you when it needs the best. Please use the vision and the strategic campaign plan published separately, and help me to achieve our vision and strategic goals.

Vision Statement

The world's premier public engineering organization responding to our nations's needs in peace and war.

A full-spectrum Engineer Force of high quality, dedicated soldiers and civilians:

- Trained and ready,
- A vital part of the Army,
- Dedicated to public service,
- An Army values-based organization.

Strategic Goals

People: Be recognized for the technical and professional excellence of our world class workforce, functioning as teams delivering projects and services.

Process: Use the Project Management Business Process to operate as On e Corps, regionally delivering quality goods and services.

Communication: Communicate effectively to build synergistic relationships that serve the nation.

Vision discussion questions

Optional questions for workplace discussions

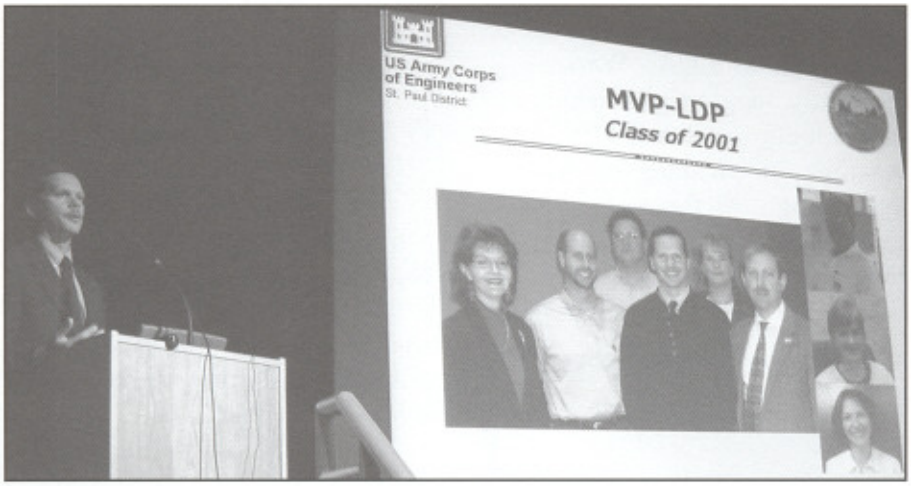
Corps of Engineers' Public Affairs sent the following open-ended questions to stimulate discussion about the vision and your role in making the vision reality. Here are some examples to start a discussion. The campaign plan, posted to the intranet at *http://corpsinfo.usace.army.mil/mp/n/50th/*, has much more detail than the vision, so reading it ahead of time will lead to richer discussions.

- The Chief says you have permission to do something as long as it's good for your customer, legal and ethical, and is something you're willing to be accountable for. How will that change the way you work?
- How do the Army values apply in our work environment? How do values make or break an organization? Are there any values missing?
- Of the strategic goals – people, process, communication – which is the most needed and why?
- For each strategic goal – people, process and communication – ask the three following questions separately:
- What are the biggest challenges surrounding this goal?
- What can we do about it?
- What do you think our district/division/lab campaign plan ought to have in it to address these issues?

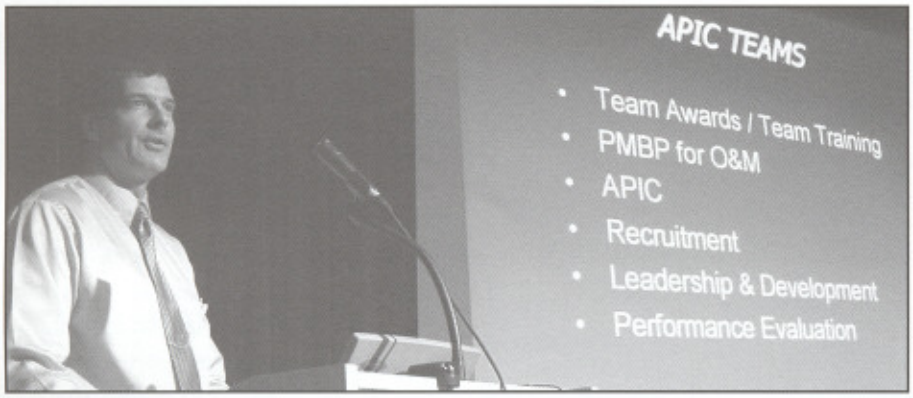
Town Hall Meeting held June 4 in St. Paul

Photos by Peter Verstegen

Judy DesHarnais, district deputy for Programs and Project Management, did a follow-up of February's off-site strategy meeting.



Randy Urich, a forester in the Natural Resource Project Office, discussed the Leadership Development Program.



John Bailen, chief of Engineering Division, reviewed the Army Performance Improvement Criteria.

By Peter Verstegen
Public Affairs specialist

Capt. Willie Green received recognition at the June 4 Town Hall Meeting for the MacArthur Award. Greene is assigned to the Contracting Division in the St. Paul District. He was among 24 junior officers to receive the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award at a ceremony in the Pentagon on May 23. The award criteria include the ability to motivate others, understand fellow soldiers and inspire commitment, teamwork and esprit de corps. He received the honor for accomplishments while stationed at Fort Hood, Tex. Members of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve units were among award recipients at the May 23 ceremony.

The Town Hall Meeting included a briefing on the Corps-wide Strategic Vision. Col. Kasprisin followed up the briefing with a question-and-answer session.

District readies for Change of Command

The St. Paul District Change of Command Ceremony on July 27 at 2 p.m. honors the service of Col. Kenneth S. Kasprisin, outgoing commander of the St. Paul District, and Col. Robert L. Ball, incoming commander. The ceremony is in the Great River Ballroom of the Radisson Hotel, 11 E. Kellogg Blvd., in St. Paul.

Kasprisin has accepted a civilian position as the director for Region X of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Seattle, Wash.

Greetings from Kuwait

By Kari Layman
Engineering Division

Kari Layman, Hydraulics and Hydrology Branch, described the highlights of a 90-day tour of duty in Kuwait. She returned "in country" on May 14 and was at work on May 15.

I arrived in Kuwait City on Feb. 10, 2001, for a 90-day tour with the Corps of Engineers' Installation Support Office (ISO). The ISO is part of the Transatlantic Program Center (TAC) which is located in Winchester, Va. The ISO was formally created in January 1998 to better support the engineering and construction needs of the American military stationed in Kuwait.

Primarily, we support the U.S. Army Central Command (ARCENT) at Camp Doha and the U.S. Central Air Force (CENTAF) at Ali Al Salem and Al Jaber air bases.

TAC issued a statement Corps-wide that they were looking for interns to assist with their mission in Kuwait. I thought it would be an excellent experience and I have always wanted to see the Middle East. Conditions being what they are, I am not able to travel throughout the Middle East. Though the work is, at times, overwhelming, positively affecting the lives of the men and women serving in Kuwait is an awesome reward.

First week of April 2001

I have been assigned to work on Camp Doha as a QA. We are constantly juggling timetables around troop arrival and departure, so planning is often challenging. At the moment we are in the middle of Lucky Sentinel, which is a military exercise. Our population triples and most of our guests are staying in Open Bay quarters.

I am working six days a week, 10 hours a day. I thought this kind of schedule would be daunting, but for the most part I find that 10 hours is not enough. My partner and I are responsible for 21 open contracts on Camp Doha. Our projects range from installing fencing to erecting pre-engineered buildings.

Yesterday, the temperature reached 105 degrees Fahrenheit. Needless to say, I was not prepared for that kind of warmth so early in the year. Hopefully, the temperature will cool a little, but summer is unavoidable. I am hoping to escape before the days reach 120 to 130 degrees Fahrenheit.

First week of May 2001

This week I had an opportunity to ride out to the Kabal, which is a live-fire training range. The Kabal is located about 1.5 hours northwest of Camp Doha. From what I understand, if we were to drive a little further we could see signs which read:

"NO AMERICANS BEYOND THIS POINT."

I decided to take their word for it.

We are currently preparing for RSOI (Reception Staging Onward-Movement Integration), which is the arrival and deployment of the next task force that will train at the Kabal. The troops arrive in the middle of the night, pick up their equipment and convoy out to the site. They train for 90 days and then come back to Camp Doha for turn-in.

I can only imagine what it must be like to live at the Kabal for 90 days. There is nothing to see but

Map courtesy Lt. Col. John Brown

desert for miles and miles.

In addition to being in the middle of nowhere, the soldiers must deal with the intense climate conditions. They live in tent communities, which only recently have been upgraded to allow for HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning). I have a great deal of respect for the people that train here.

On the way out to the Kabal we stopped at a graveyard of Iraqi tanks. The equipment was abandoned on infamous "Highway of Death." It is truly amazing to see that after ten years the equipment is still sitting here.

You're no longer in a civil works district when...

By Kari Layman
Engineering Division

• Before you report to work, you are shown a video that outlines what to do if you are kidnapped or your plane is hijacked;

• When you arrive at work, the car is searched for bombs;

• The final stop on your orientation tour includes being fitted for a gas mask;

• In most conversations, there are more acronyms than actual words;

• You hope the big boom in the middle of the night is fireworks;

• People you work with have pictures like this:

Photo by Lloyd Tickell

Kari Layman, right, enjoys some fresh flat-bread in the market. Jim Rogy, Philadelphia District, is to the far left and John Lozano, Kuwait ISO (support operations), is in the middle.

Photo by Kari Layman

On the way out to the Kabal, Layman stopped at a graveyard of Iraqi tanks taken from the infamous "Highway of Death."

Corps, sponsors break ground at Baldhill Dam

Photo by Bill Csajko

Participating in the ground-breaking ceremony, from left, are: John Eickhof, John Bailen, Dale Frink, Norma Duppler, Riley Rogers, Don Elston, and Ken Stroh. Bailen is chief of the district's Engineering Division. Others are project stakeholders.

By Peter Verstegen
Public Affairs specialist

Valley City, Lisbon and other communities along the Sheyenne River in North Dakota will have an increased level of flood protection, thanks to the $9.3 million Baldhill Pool Raise project at Lake Ashtabula.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the project sponsor, the Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource District, had a formal ground-breaking ceremony for the project on June 7, 2001 at Baldhill Dam.

Officials from the Corps, the project sponsor, the North Dakota State Water Commission and other civic officials attended.

The first construction contract, for replacement of the existing spillway gates, began this spring. The project is scheduled for completion in spring 2003. Congress provided $2.6 million for construction this fiscal year. The federal share of the project is $7 million, with the balance financed by the local sponsor. The Baldhill Pool Raise is part of the Sheyenne River project, which includes the Horace to West Fargo and West Fargo projects, completed in 1992 and 1994 respectively.

Baldhill Dam, about 12 miles north of Valley City, forms Lake Ashtabula.

The project will allow the reservoir to store five more feet of water during major floods. The pool raise is designed to reduce flood-related damage to downstream communities.

Project improvements include: replacing the existing spillway gates; acquisition of 1,500 acres of flowage easement around the lake; 300 acres for a mitigation area; raising land and buildings at the Wesley Acres Church Camp; construction of several small levees; and placement of fill near structures around the reservoir.

Seven water resource districts make up the Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource District: Southeast Cass, Barnes County, Griggs County, Nelson County, Ransom County, Richland County and Steele County.

The dam was first constructed in 1950 for water supply, pollution abatement and flood control.

Photo by Bill Csajko

Lisa Hedin, right, discusses project details with John Eickhof (back to camera) and Kerry Horner.

Bits and Pieces

Hole-in-1 marks Memorial Day

"It was fantastic!" said Doris Sullivan, Design Branch.

Sullivan, Pat and Chuck Rogers, and Darrell Morey played a round of golf at Oak Marsh on Memorial Day. Pat Rogers works in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. Her husband is a retired deputy district commander.

On the sixth hole, Morey chose his wedge and drove the ball. The sixth is 110 yards, par 3.

"We could not see the hole because of a large berm between the tee and where the flag was placed. We could see the top of the flag, as I recall. It looked like a really good shot," said Sullivan. "It probably went right into the cup," said Sullivan, half-joking.

Morey laughed and said, "Oh, yeah."

"Well, if I remember right – Chuck hit first from the tee and it landed on the green," said Pat Rogers. "Then Darrell said 'I think I'll take out my 107-yard club,' which was his pitching wedge. He hit the ball and it looked like a great shot, but we couldn't see the ball on the green. Then I hit and mine landed on the green, and then Doris hit. Hers landed close to the green. We all went toward the green and Chuck said, "I don't see Darrell's ball."

"Maybe it landed in the hole," Pat said, laughing.

Morey had driven the ball into the hole on the sixth.

"And sure enough. Chuck pulled the pin and out popped the ball! We all just screamed! I think Darrell was in shock. I wish we would have had a camera to record the look on his face. I'll probably never see that again. It was just such a wonderful moment," said Pat.

"Darrell is a quiet person, but his face just lit up. He was very pleased. Kind of in shock for the next two holes, or so," said Sullivan.

Mena daughters pin down wrestling championships

Photo courtesy of John Mena

Wrestling trophies and medals surround Elena Mena, at left, and Alicia Mena.

Two championship wrestlers from Minnesota have pinned down a number of national wrestling championships. They plan to go the mat to compete for the 2004 Olympics.

They are the daughters of John Mena, a lock and dam operator at Upper St, Anthony Falls Lock and Dam.

Daughters Elena and Alicia Mena competed in the 2001 Women's Wrestling Fila Junior National Championships and World Team Qualifier held at Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio on June 3.

Fila is a ruling organization for sporting events throughout the world.

The two competed in the Junior Division and Senior Level. Elena is the 2001 Junior National Champion and Alicia is second. Alicia ranks three in the nation at the senior-level. Elena ranks fifth.

In winning the 2001 Junior National Championship and making the 2001 Junior World Team, Elena will travel to Switzerland to represent the United States in the Women's World Wrestling Championships.

Elena beat the 2000 World Champion by a pin, which means holding both shoulders of the opponent to the mat for two seconds.

The two sisters, both in the 165 pounds (75 kg) weight class, began wrestling soon after they were six years old.

The 20-year-old Elena and the 18-year-old Alicia have become pioneers in women's wrestling in Minnesota. They won state championships in freestyle and Greco-Roman Wrestling competing with the young men on high school teams and at club tournaments.

This year at the Senior National Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada, Alicia placed third and received the Most Pins Award. Elena placed fifth with a loss to Alicia.

Both young women qualified

Continued on page 8

for the Senior World Team Trials in Cincinnati, Ohio on 21 June and have made All American.

At Dayton, Ohio, Elena and Alicia won all their matches and faced each other in the championship match, which Elena won by a pin.

District to raise 6 levees at Devils Lake

St. Paul District is initiating emergency assistance under P.L. 84-99 in response to a request from the Spirit Lake Tribe, Devils Lake, N.D.

The work consists of raising six emergency levees that protect portions of the Spirit Lake reservation. The work started in June and will be completed this later this summer. The tribe is providing materials for the emergency construction project.

Rainy-Namakan water levels high

Due to more than 10 inches of rain in the Rainy-Namakan Basin in April and May, water levels were well above the International Joint Commission (IJC) emergency condition level. All outlet gates have been open on Rainy Lake and Namakan Lake and Lake of the Woods on the Minnesota-Canada border. Inflow to Namakan was showing signs of peaking, while inflow to Rainy and Lake of the Woods rose sharply through the end of May. The St. Paul District coordinated with Canadian counterparts to develop an informational news release with IJC staff.

This year's event will be among the three to five highest events of record.

Hydro-survey crew charts river bottom

Photo by Paul Machajewski

Steve Sing, a survey technician (right) works the computer keyboard in the hydro-survey boat while he and John Baures chart the bottom of the nine-foot channel on the Mississippi River near Fountain City, Wis. Spring floods and river currents deposited sediment on the river bottom. The survey data support channel maintenance and navigation.

High water at headwaters lakes erodes shoreline

Due to heavy precipitation, St. Paul District is experiencing very high lake levels in the Mississippi River Headwaters reservoirs. This has caused shoreline erosion and affected private property around area the lakes but does not threaten communities.

Moser named lock leader at L&D 6

Terry Jessessky, central area lockmaster, selected Delene Moser as lock leader at Lock and Dam 6 in Trempealeau, Wis. She replaces Dale Ebner who retired June 3, 2001.

Crosscurrents

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District

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