



CROSSCURRENTS

ST. PAUL DISTRICT
U.S. ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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DECEMBER 1980

Mobilization exercise played by district staff

The St. Paul District (NCS) participated in a nationwide Corps of Engineers mobilization exercise under the code words "Proud Spirit/MOBEX 80." The MOBEX exercise, or "war games," were played by various district office chiefs and representatives, and several military personnel.

The exercise, held Nov. 6-26, was performed in the district's new Emergency Management (EM) Office in Rooms 1515-17. Lynn Cuyler, EM, orchestrated the exercise under the careful direction of Executive Officer Maj. Arthur McKee.

In reality, a war could take place anywhere in the world; but for the purpose of the MOBEX exercise, the staff decided to use a NATO scenario which assumed a war to geographically erupt and take place in Europe.

The MOBEX exercise basically tested the operation of five plans--Mobilization Plan, National Emergency Procedures Plan, Emergency Communications Plan, Continuity of Operations Plan, and Maximum Physical Security Plan.

If a mobilization should actually be declared, NCS, along with all of the other districts within the North Central Division (NCD), would provide support to the Omaha District (MRO). The reason is that NCD does not have jurisdiction over any military installation but only civil works projects; whereas MRO has jurisdiction over both civil works projects and military installation projects, including the military facilities located in the Midwest.

During an actual mobilization, MRO assigns various districts to provide support to certain military facilities under MRO's jurisdiction which are geographically within those districts' civil works boundaries.

NCS is responsible for providing support to Fort McCoy, Wis.; Fort Ripley, Minn.; and the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant in New Brighton, Minn.

Under the mission of mobilization, NCS is to provide support in the "rehabilitation and site built-up of specified military in-



Several staff members at the exercise.

stallations and other support facilities," according to Cuyler, and to "increase physical security at all locks and dams and essential water control projects, and continue the civil works functions which support the war effort."

Some of the key problems and concerns which were identified from the MOBEX exercise carried out by NCS were:

* The shortage of skilled engineers would seriously affect the national mobilization capability. Considerable difficulty was encountered in the recruitment of civil engineers particularly in view of stiff competition from private firms and other agencies. The State Employment Service listed barely enough engineers to replace the district's losses due to reserve activations, individual call-ups, and draft eligibles.

* No nationwide energy priority allocation system was in effect or available. Since electricity, gasoline and other related products will be vital to the district's con-

(see page three)



From the editor's desk

Thanks so much for your responses to the questionnaire published in last month's issue. Your comments and suggestions on how the Crosscurrents can be improved were helpful. Please continue to send in your comments.

You are welcome to contribute articles and photographs to Crosscurrents. Please let us know what is happening to you, your co-workers, and your office; our staff is especially interested in office operations and various projects. We are also interested in the happenings of former Corps employees.

The final deadline for submitting all articles to the next issue of Crosscurrents is Dec. 22. (Blanche Hom)

Some locks closed for winter

Lock and Dam 1 and the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam closed to Mississippi River navigation on Nov. 24 for the season, while navigation between St. Paul and Lock and Dam 10 in Guttenberg, Iowa, is expected to continue until freezing waters force a closing in early to mid-December.

As of Nov. 24, the river water temperature at Lock and Dam 2 was 37 degrees Fahrenheit and Lock and Dam 10 was 36 degrees; the air temperature at Lock and Dam 2 was 20 degrees Fahrenheit and Lock and Dam 10 was 22 degrees. There is some ice in the back waters down through Lock and Dam 8 in Genoa, Wisc.

There were approximately 19 tows on the Mississippi River within the St. Paul District, as of Nov. 24.

Issue of new permits halted

The North Central Division, Corps of Engineers, and the North Central Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have agreed to place a moratorium on the issuance of special use permits and licenses for new recreational structures on federally owned refuge land.

Designed to stay in force at least until 1985, the moratorium will be replaced eventually by implementation of resource management plans now under development by the two agencies.

Licenses and permits covering existing private structures will be reissued during the moratorium period. Provisions will be made to allow transfer of licenses when structures are sold. The relocation of existing structures will not be allowed.

Whether or not in the future, private structures are to be authorized on refuge land, and to what extent, will probably be determined by recommendations in the management plans, scheduled for completion in five years.

The St. Paul District has long wrestled with problems associated with private structures on Corps land along the Mississippi River. While the special use licenses issued by the district technically limited the structures to supporting recreational boating, many of them were turned into unauthorized living quarters and summer cottages. Recent steps by the district to eliminate all "living features" of the structures have been generally successful. But long-range solution to the use of structures on Corps land managed as refuge will probably only come with the new plans now under study.



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*District Engineer
Public Affairs Officer
Editor*

*Colonel William W. Badger
James E. Braatz
Blanche Hom*

MOBEX played by staff

(from page one)

struction program, both the Corps of Engineers and private contractors working for the district will require priority allocations for local purchase of fuel.

* Navigation could be seriously affected by the damage to lock chamber miter gates. This is considered the most critical replaceable component when considering repair time.

* The lack of high priority codes for procurement and supply severely affected the district's mobilization mission. It is critical that the Corps of Engineers determine promptly which projects require prioritizing in order that procurement actions taken in times of national emergency may receive appropriate vendor action and as a means of enforcement of such priorities by the Corps.

* Missions from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other federal and state agencies were anticipated but never realized. It is certain that the civil sector and other federal agencies would task the Corps for mobilization missions. Currently the type and scope of these missions are unknown.

Recommendations were made by the exercise participants to correct or minimize the problems and were forwarded to NCD.

Corps recognizes organizations

by Richard Laddusire, EP-E

The St. Paul District recently recognized three individuals and organizations for their assistance in placing individuals with the St. Paul District. Certificates of Achievement were issued to William Juhnke, job counselor with the Minnesota State Employment Service, St. Paul; Harold Motzenbacher, placement officer with the Western Wisconsin Technical Institute, La Crosse, Wisconsin; and Eva Constantine with the Cooperative Education Office, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota.

These three organizations and individuals assisted the St. Paul District in locating applicants for Corps positions. Placements were made as lock and dam operators, summer aids, sociologist, public information specialist, and clerk-typist.

Chippewa River is changing

The Chippewa River, longtime thorn in the side of its bigger brother, the Mississippi, is undergoing change in Durand, Wis.

Two construction firms, working under Corps of Engineers contracts totaling \$325,000, are installing five separate streambank control demonstration projects.

The projects, although not guaranteed to reduce the river's heavy sediment load, are an experiment to see what type of low cost streambank stabilizations are most effective.

"Work began about three weeks ago," Melissa Morris Shortridge, a Corps engineer overseeing the project, explained while supervising the work. She added that following completion the projects will be monitored for several years to determine effectiveness.

Much of the eroded land winds up in the Mississippi River, and the Corps is forced to dredge it out.

According to the Great River Environmental Action Team (GREAT) report on sediment and erosion, the Chippewa River is responsible for about 20% of all Mississippi River maintenance dredging in the St. Paul District.

The Chippewa is also responsible for filling in Lake Pepin. The GREAT study indicates that if the current sedimentation rate continues, within three generations the upper end of Lake Pepin will turn into a marsh.

The project uses different methods such as cement blocks; quarry rocks; synthetic material and rock combinations; plastic-coated wire mesh; sandbags; wooden posts, trees and metal fence combinations; snow fence and cement block combinations; usage of trees; and combinations with bank sloping.

"The average cost of all of these methods is about \$35 per lineal foot," explained Al Bjorkquist, Corps civil engineer in St. Paul, noting that is much less than conventional streambank protection practices. The cost of using selected rip-rap and doing extensive bank sloping prior to its application is "quite expensive."

Bjorkquist added that part of the project's purpose is to show property owners what can be accomplished by these practices.

If low-cost streambank protection projects prove effective, he said, perhaps the number of people implementing protection projects will be greater.

Extracted from "Winona Daily News," Nov. 16, 1980; Winona, Minn.

Winter visitor permits not required

Visitor permits to enter the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) Wilderness will not be required from Nov. 15 through April 30, according to Charles G. Anderson, recreation staff officer for the Superior National Forest.

Anderson stated that last year obtaining permits for winter travel in the BWCA was suspended on an experimental basis. Reasons for not requiring permits were continued difficulties in obtaining permits outside of normal business hours and at remote locations, increasing administrative costs, and relatively low off-season use. Anderson reported that the experiment worked extremely well for all concerned and the policy of not requiring winter-use permits will be continued.

A voluntary visitors registration form similar to the one used last year will be provided for those users who wish to leave a record of their planned trip. As a safety precaution, Anderson encourages all overnight campers to fill out this form prior to entering the BWCA Wilderness.

From "News Release," Nov. 14, 1980; Superior National Forest, Duluth, MN.

Special awards given to district

Triple honors were given to the St. Paul District at a Nov. 26 luncheon meeting of the Twin Cities Federal Executive Board (FEB) at the Normandy Motor Inn in Minneapolis. District Engineer Col. William W. Badger and Philip Campbell of the Equal Opportunity Office received special awards of recognition for their roles in the Selective Placement of the Handicapped for Fiscal Year 1980.

Col. Badger received his award as the agency head "most deserving of recognition for the personal interest and support he has shown in making his agency's program a success."

Philip was named the agency coordinator "whose contributions and efforts have most significantly impacted on the success of this program within his agency."

To complete the honors for the district, Perry Weiberg, Lock and Dam 1, was named at the luncheon as the first place winner in the recent FEB Essay Contest. A \$500 savings bond was presented to Perry for his fine effort.



TOURING THE WORK AT THE MANKATO-NORTH MANKATO Flood Control Project were (from left to right) James Kursu, ED-P; North Central Division Deputy Division Engineer Col. Charles Shreves; Peter Fischer, ED; and Lt. Col. Stephen Draper, DD. Col. Shreves visited the St. Paul District in early November to receive briefings on district activities and operations. *(Photo courtesy of James Kursu)*

Fish habitat improvement

by Mike Fowles

Fish, like wildlife, need food, cover and other essentials to survive and reproduce successfully. Sometimes reservoirs lack sufficient amounts of one or more of these. When this occurs, the factor in short supply limits the number of fish which can be supported in the reservoir (called the "carrying capacity").

Theoretically, if more of the limiting factor is supplied to the reservoir, its carrying capacity will increase, with the population peaking and leveling off eventually. This is the basic operating principle on which fish and wildlife management is founded. Fish and wildlife populations are expanded by identifying the limiting factor and manipulating habitat in a manner which will increase the carrying capacity.

The limiting factor in many reservoirs is a lack of sufficient escape cover and

Movie on Miss. R. being filmed

The North Central Division Public Affairs Office is producing a 20-30 minute motion picture on the upper Mississippi River which is aimed at accurately depicting the dilemma of a river besieged by many demands but reflecting countless values.

St. Paul District Public Affairs Office has supported the filming by coordinating "shooting" visits to the district by the contracted production crew of Jack Lieb, Inc., of Chicago. Some of the fall scenes caught by the Lieb crew on 16mm Eastman color film were fall foliage and activities in the Headwaters, recreationers along the upper St. Croix River, the quarterly meeting of the Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission, rehabilitation work at Lock and Dam 1, and a barge traffic jam at the Hastings swing bridge.

The movie, whose working title is "To Whom Does the River Belong?" will take about a year to complete and will geographically cover the Mississippi down to the mouth of the Ohio River. When finished it will be available for distribution nationwide.

The producer of the motion picture is looking for good ideas and special events along the Upper Mississippi which will help tell the river's story as well as explain the role of the Corps relative to the river. Suggestions, which will be appreciated, should be directed to the St. Paul District Public Affairs Office.

breeding habitat. Aquatic vegetation, required by fish for hiding from predators and for reproducing, cannot withstand the long periods of exposure and desiccation to which they are subjected by seasonal draw-down.

Terrestrial plants cannot become established around the reservoir because of prolonged periods of inundation. The result is an extensive zone of bare shoreline surrounding the reservoir. This zone cannot support fish, and the carrying capacity of the reservoir, as a whole, suffers.

One solution to this problem is the construction of artificial cover. Several reservoirs in the Pittsburgh District have built artificial reefs from a variety of materials ranging from rock and clay tile, to brush and old tires. These reefs, sometimes called "fish attractors," provide habitat which is otherwise missing. Simple plants, such as algae, can become established on the reefs. There are nooks and crannies for small fish to escape into when threatened by predators. Fish which need cover for spawning, such as bluegills, catfish and crappies, benefit from these structures.

Brush is the preferred material. It has been proven to be the most effective of all in attracting fish and the organisms upon which they depend. However, brush has to be replaced every three to five years because of decay.

Tires are more durable, but there is also the possibility of heavy metals leaching into the surrounding water and substrate from the tires, thereby polluting the environment.

Rock and clay tiles is required in larger quantities to get the vertical structure desirable in fish attractors. They are also awkward to transport. However, they are durable and remain where they are dumped.

Attractors are usually placed in shallow water ranging from 10 to 20 feet. This provides adequate clearance for boaters and usually eliminates the aesthetic problem of exposure during draw-down.

A recent study in Kentucky proved conclusively that both brush and tire attractors attract substantially higher numbers and weights of fish as compared to nearby open water controlled areas.

Extracted from "Environmental Awareness," November 1980; Recreation-Resource Management Branch, Pittsburgh District.

Gov't gives a dam, starts a fight

Each morning, Orlin Hanson looks out upon a valley lying in the shadow of death. "If the cityfolk have their way, the valley will die, and so will the small towns in the valley's path."

Here amidst the treeless flatland of northern Dakota, the weather-beaten country folk have lined up against their city brethren. And it's all a matter of the United States government's giving a dam.

Giving a dam, that is, to Minot, the largest city in northern Dakota which wants protection from future flooding.

The government plans to dam the unpredictable Souris River, which begins and ends in Canada and nourishes the Souris valley.

The farmers feel the dam would wipe out their peaceful green valley, while the Minot townspeople fear the rising waters of the river could one day wipe out their homes.

So, on a recent Indian summer day, the farmers hatched their latest maneuver to halt the proposed \$100 million Burlington Dam--an old-fashioned boycott.

All along the meandering Souris, farmers began withdrawing money from Minot banks and boycotting businesses where they bought supplies.

To the farmers and stockmen along the valley, the river is like a fickle lover, which nourishes the abundant grain-producing land most of the time but can't be depended on to be forever faithful.

"If the river floods, we farmers can handle her staying on top our land for a while. But backed-up dam water will stay for months and kill our land," said Orlin Oium.

To the people of Minot, the Souris is regarded as an unwelcome neighbor who not only drops in unexpectedly, but also stays too long. Much too long. The last time the river flooded, on Easter in 1969, the waters remained for 40 days.

During the last 10 years, those Minot citizens who live along the river have had to move out of their homes five times because of flood threats.

"They don't have to live next to the river," said Mrs. Audrey Keith, who joined Hanson and several farmers' wives. "They choose to live there because of the shade trees and because it's pretty. The only piece of the river valley they want to save is in Minot. Well, they can move their homes. But we can't move the land."

"More than 52 farms, 19,330 acres of farmland, 5,400 acres of grazing land, and 1,365 acres of woodland would be lost forever," Mrs. Byrle Stewart said. "Throw in marshland, duck nesting grounds, and a cemetery that would be flooded and you got a real horror story."

Minot Mayor Chester Reiten said, "The city will die if the river continues to do what it has done for the past 10 years. If the dam isn't built, the city will disappear as a viable part of the state."

"Not so," Oium said, "It will die if we boycott it. Since the 1969 flood, the Army Corps of Engineers has placed a sophisticated diking and channeling system along the river, which withstood the test of a Souris River swollen with snowmelts from Canada in 1976."

The pro-dam group, "4-dam Inc.," located in Minot has gathered thousands of signatures on a petition demanding creation of the dam, which would also provide jobs. They contend that only 18 farms and 12 rural homes would be displaced.

It was during the 1978 "Valley Rally Day" that the farmers sold one acre of land in the path of the dam to more than 4,000 people. They wanted to create a legal maze so intricate it would be next to impossible for the government to buy the land.

"The land sale caused a delay," said Jim Braatz, public affairs spokesman for the St. Paul District of the Army Corps of Engineers. "But it created no serious obstacle."

While farmers sat in their tractor cab recently and listened to radio updates of the dam protest, they heard Hanson ask:

"Have you driven the valley road all the way to the Canadian border? Do you really know what you are asking us to give up? Do we want to listen to the Homesteader's lament:

"My son, my son, walk along the Mouse River (Souris is French for mouse) north of Minot.

"Walk in the trees and drink in the spirit of these primeval forest lands, for soon the greed of man may destroy them forever."

Extracted from "Chicago Tribune," Oct. 31, 1980; Chicago, Ill.

Inspecting dam construction

by Wendell E. Johnson,
former Chief of the Engineering
Division, Civil Works

Most of the recent attention in dam engineering has centered on design, perhaps to the extent that other critical operations, such as construction supervision and inspection, have been overshadowed. The competent and adequate inspection of construction operations has been a principle concern of mine throughout my engineering career.

Fortunately, most United States heavy construction contractors are competent and responsible. They take their responsibilities seriously because of their innate morality and perhaps, in part, because they recognize their legal position.

Actually, the owner has a tremendous moral and legal responsibility, in view of the potential hazard which a dam adds to the en-

Barge fleeting needs studied

by Sally French

The Metropolitan Council voted in October to undertake a \$30,000 study of barge fleeting needs on the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers in the Twin Cities area.

The three-month study, funded by the State Environmental Quality Board (EQB), has several objectives. These include determining the capacity of present barge fleeting (parking) areas and identifying future needs, evaluating projections of future goods movement on the rivers, and identifying environmental economic and social problems that might result from an increase in barge fleeting space.

A 1978 University of Minnesota study conducted for the Corps of Engineers showed the tonnage of goods shipped by barges on the Mississippi increased five-fold between 1953 and 1973. The study predicted barge shipping would increase from 50 to 25% between 1975 and 1985, the high range becoming possible if the Twin Cities became a major transshipment point for western coal bound for eastern markets.

In 1979, according to the Corps of Engineers records, 13 million tons of goods moved through the Twin Cities area on 6,000 barges, a 70% increase over the 1973 tonnage.

Extracted from "Metro Monitor," Vol. 2,
No. 6, November 1980.

vironment. The owner must be assured that the plans and specifications are complied with, and to do so he must have a quality assurance organization--an inspection staff--to monitor and document the construction.

It is essential that continuous, competent inspection be maintained by the owner, for it is he who has the overall responsibility. He must assure himself that the specified construction processes are being performed properly and that the plans and specifications are adequate for the field conditions encountered.

The following are weaknesses I see:

* **LOW PAY.** It is common knowledge that in most cases inspectors are among the lowest paid workers on the job. Pay is not commensurate with the responsibilities.

* **INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF INSPECTORS.** Contractors often work longer hours than inspectors. When contractors work 20 to 24 hours a day, the inspection force must adapt to these hours. Usually, either the number of inspectors must be increased, overtime authorized, or the available number of inspectors spread thinly over the period of operation. Too often the latter recourse has prevailed, resulting in inadequate inspection coverage.

* **QUALITY OF PERSONNEL.** The attraction of well qualified personnel to the inspection field has been a major problem for many years. It is difficult to interest engineers and competent subprofessionals in inspection work due to such factors as low pay, prestige and challenge. Another reason is the frequent moving involved. As soon as a construction job is finished, the inspector must move on to the next job location.

What can be done to eliminate these problems and improve the inspection process? Provide an inspection force sufficient for continuous coverage, authorize overtime for inspectors, improve salaries for inspectors, improve the training of inspectors, improve prestige, document all construction, and coordinate design and construction.

Extracted from "Civil Engineering--ASCE,"
Vol. 50, No. 11, November 1980.



Holiday message

With the holidays nearly upon us, I want to direct my personal regards to each St. Paul District employee, in the District Office and the field. We have enjoyed an outstanding professional and human relationship over the past year. I haven't had the opportunity to sit down and chat at length with everyone, but many warm and gratifying contacts have convinced me that the District is composed of people who regard each other highly and have a great deal of pride in the quality of our products.

We work hard together during the year, and face many trials and tribulations in the course of doing an often difficult and always necessary job. That spirit of cooperation and essential fellowship is important in everything that we do, and certainly has special significance this time of year.

It is my hope that you are able to participate fully in the enjoyment of the holiday season with your family. As a starter I hope to see you all at the Holiday Party being held at the West St. Paul National Guard Armory on Dec. 19. It will be a fine chance to renew our expressions of mutual regard.

May you have a safe and joyous holiday.

WILLIAM W. BADGER
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

New crest designed and adopted

A banner proclaiming "Essayons" the Corps' historic motto meaning "Let us try!" is proudly held by our national symbol in the winning design of a new official unit crest for the Corps of Engineers.

The crest, designed by Bob Irej, an artist with the Omaha District, was chosen as the winning design in a national Corps contest. This contest was announced soon after the Corps, in 1979, was elevated to a major Army command.

In the winning design, the world-wide scope of the Corps' mission and its service to the nation in the past, present, and future are symbolized by a stylized sun and globe.

The olive branch connotes the peaceful nature of the Corps' mission and the oak leaves symbolized fortitude. Also, the branches symbolize the Corps' concern for the environment.

From "District Observer," Vol. 1, No. 10, November 1980; Philadelphia District.



Incentive awards

Just between us

Get-well wishes go to Loretta Pierre, DC-F, who was hospitalized recently.

Congratulations go to Diane and James Stadelman, ED-P, on the birth of daughter Jennifer Lynn, 7 lb., 14 oz., on Nov. 9.

Congratulations go to former Corps employee Harold Johns of Amery, Wis., on being elected the first vice-president of the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association. Johns is also active in the Polk-Burnett Beekeepers Association and the Polk-Burnett Electric Co-op.

Federal Women's Program news

Congratulations go to Pat Westfall, ED-D, for the certificate of appreciation awarded by the Federal Executive Board (FEB). The Corps was presented this award at the October FEB meeting for the art and drafting work done for Federal Women's Day held May 1980. Pat devoted much of her time in providing this assistance. Thanks, Pat!

Thanks also go to all of the people who contributed their ideas, time, effort, blood, sweat, tears, etc. to the recent FWP display. Our first display concentrated on the engineering and scientific fields and the Upward Mobility Program. Any comments or ideas for the future would be greatly appreciated.

Morhun moves into lead

by Clyde Giaquinto, ED-D

This year's chess tournament got off to a roaring start. Konstantin Morhun, ED-D, has already won two games, one apiece from Al Ellingson, ED-GH, and me.

Sixteen players have entered the event, with two round robin groups comprising of eight players each. The winners of each group will compete in a three-game match for the championship.

The Employee Benefit Fund will sponsor a traveling trophy to be awarded to the tournament winner in March 1981.

Farewell and good luck go to Mike Downs, DO-P, on his new job out west. Mike was the undefeated champion of the St. Paul District Chess Tournament for the past three years.

Outstanding Performance Ratings

Eunice B. Beran, EM
Timothy J. Fell, CO-RF
Delores D. Sudeith, AS
Blanche Hom, PA
Orian D. Johnson, ED-D
Clifford W. Schlueter, ED-GH
Moon Yong Han, ED-GH

Outstanding Performance Ratings & Sustained Superior Performance Awards

Joel A. Rogers, CO-CT
Ann K. Allen, DC-F
Janice A. Wallace, EP-R
Philip F. Campbell, EE
Carol A. Johnson, DC-FE

Quality Increases

John H. Plump, Jr., ED-D
Helen L. Marriott, ED-D

Sustained Superior Performance Awards

Donald A. Benson, ED-GH
Fred J. Whebbe, ED-D
Dennis L. Erickson, CO-PO
Robert C. Douglas, L/D 5A
Ronald A. Westerlund, CO-CT

Suggestion Awards

John P. Olson, CO-A (\$30) for an adopted suggestion which proposed that a set of jumper cables be purchased for use by the Corps' motor vehicle operator.

Jan I. Lassen, ED-D (\$25) for an adopted suggestion which proposed that additional columns be added on the Design Branch Requisition Sign-out forms.

Mary M. Huss, CO-A, for an adopted suggestion which proposed that the name and phone number of the car dispatcher be added to the top of the telephone directory.

Jan I. Lassen, ED-D, for an adopted suggestion which proposed that an employee information number be added to the top of the telephone directory.

Richard K. Laddusire, EP-E, for an adopted suggestion which proposed that people on TDY to the St. Paul District contact our dispatcher to arrange to park in one of the Corps' parking stalls, if vacant.

New Xerox machine available

by LeRoy Lorinser, AS-R

A new 8200 Xerox office copier was recently installed in the Reprographics Branch, Room 1321A.

It is a fully automated copier featuring automatic original handling, three reduction modes, automatic job recovery, electronic self-diagnostics and operator assisted 2-sided copying. The unit reproduces directly from the original, feeds various weights of paper without adjustment and produces collated sets on-line. It is capable of delivering 70 copies per minute. The copier quality process has been designed for excellent reproduction of solid, half-tone and line copies.

Three members of the reprographic staff (LeRoy Lorinser, Dick Ulm and Marvin Hrdlicka) have been trained as key operators. A number of district office employees were instructed in the operation of the 8200 by a representative of the Xerox Corp.

The copier will be available for use during the regular office hours of the Reprographics Branch from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. No overtime or weekend usage will be allowed for security reasons.

The 7000 Xerox (Room 1416A) and the 3600 (Room 1115) will be available daily for usage at 7 a.m. and will be turned off at 4:30 p.m.



Using the new machine were Dick Ulm (left) and LeRoy Lorinser.



Images out of the district's past

The third annual skating party of the employees in the St. Paul District took place Jan. 15, 1936, and a wonderful crowd was there. Yes, it was at the Hippodrome Rink again, and the ice was hard as ever. Anyhow, that's what Clyde Hardwick says because he connected with it about umpteen times.

There were quite a few beginners out on the rink this year and the suggestion was made that some kind of medal or trophy should be donated to the one that went around the pond unassisted the most number of times.

District Engineer Maj. Dwight Johns and Deputy District Engineer Maj. F. Russel Lyons were shooting around the rink like a couple of flashes and we all thought that they had not skated for a few years.

Clayton Anderson and Urban McCarty had a tough battle for the fancy skating title. Clayton did a couple of more twists and turns than the book called for, so Urban was beaten by about two pages.

One of the women said that Harry Setterberg was a cheap skate because he wouldn't skate around the rink more than once with any of the women.

We all missed Jesse Barns. Last year, Jesse was the fading event of the social season, but this year unfinished business would not allow him to attend our party. Jesse has been skating nigh on to 70 years and he says that his skates are just about worn out.

James McIntyre operated the piano during the period we were waiting for the doughnuts, and those who were not too tired danced.

After the last doughnut had been consumed, the gang was still full of pep. Jerry McMurray played all the request numbers on the ivories and the rest of the crowd sang and danced. They even played and sang "the Music Goes Round and Round."

Extracted from the employee newspaper "Old Man River," Vol. 3, No. 1, February 1936; St. Paul District Historical Files.

A simple answer

by John Blackstone, ED-GH

Have you ever wondered what makes an organization like Toastmasters work? The answer is simple--new people.

Our modern, multifaceted, mobile society is constantly unfolding. We are ever on the move to achieve goals and conquer new horizons. Frequently, these opportunities seem to lie in a far off place requiring relocation.

Heritage Toastmasters is subjected to this prevailing force and as a result has recently lost two highly qualified members. All of the members in Toastmasters miss those lost to mobility, but we are encouraged by their successes. We have participated in their achievements.

I know from my experience in Toastmasters that I have contributed to other people's potential to grow. Toastmasters is solution conscious, not problem conscious. All of the people that I've met who are or want to be Toastmasters seem to have high standards and ability.

In Toastmasters you can learn to use your innate ability to achieve, communicate and lead. Yes...you as a newcomer are the most important asset that Toastmasters have.

To watch the unfolding that occurs is truly a miracle; a sight to behold. I challenge you--technician, secretary, clerk-typist, engineer, manager, blue collar or professional worker--to come to our meetings on Thursdays at noon, in the PEDC rooms on sixth floor in the St. Paul downtown post office building.

Heed the signs

Can you tell the difference between indigestion and a heart attack? If you can't, you should. Your life may depend on it.

Heart attack can strike anyone. When it occurs, there is no time for delay. Most heart attack victims survive if they recognize the early warning signals and get medical care at once.

The pain of heart attack is not exactly the same for every victim. It might be an intense pain for one person, and a milder pain for another.

Heart attack victims often hesitate. Some don't want to admit they're ill. Others mistakenly decide that the symptoms don't mean anything or are due to indigestion. They don't know the early warning signals. They wait, ignore the warnings, and hope the pain will disappear.

Signals vary, but the usual warnings are:

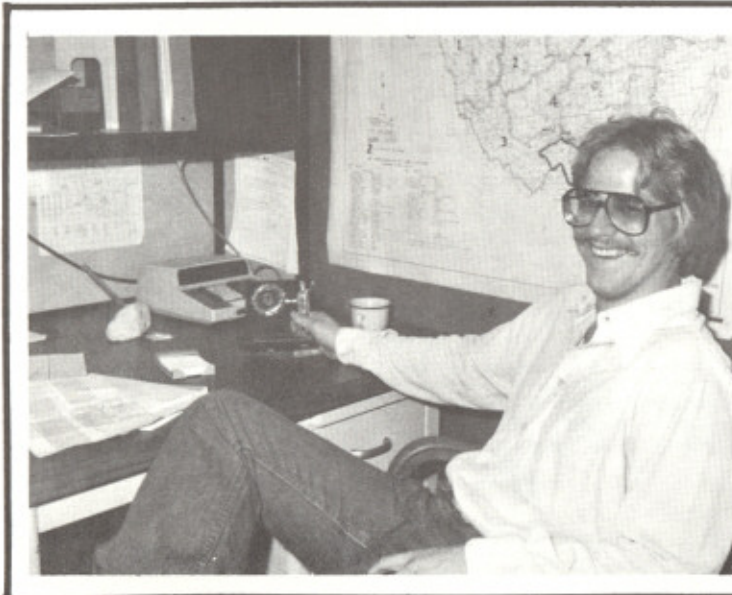
- * Uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest for more than two minutes.

- * Pain may spread to the shoulders, neck or arms.

- * Severe pain, dizziness, fainting, sweating, nausea and shortness of breath may also occur. These signals are not always present. Sometimes they subside and then return.

When these signals occur, delay can be fatal. If you or someone you know has these signals, get help immediately. Call the emergency rescue service. If you can get to a hospital faster by car, have someone drive you. Prompt action can reduce the risk of fatal heart attack.

From the "Nor'wester," January 1980; North Pacific Division.



AFTER WINNING THE SPEAKER OF THE WEEK trophy, Steve Schwager, ED-PB, proudly displayed the award from his desk recently. Steve had enrolled in a series of speech classes offered by Heritage Toastmasters and won the award on his first formal presentation.

Direct deposit goal within reach

More and more Corps of Engineers employees are participating in the new Direct Deposit Electronic Funds Transfer pay program, according to the latest study.

More than 40% of Corps employees nationwide are receiving pay "the safest, most convenient, most reliable way," according to Maj. Grant Fredricks, Direct Deposit coordinator.

Statistics on the first six electronic paydays show that out of the first 100,000 electronic transactions, only 66--or less than one per thousand--of the transactions were rejected or returned.

According to Robert Thornton of the Federal Reserve Bank in Omaha, Neb., the system is usually not at fault for rejects or returned payments. "many of the rejects were due to incorrect information and the like. Those problems can easily be taken care of and will be."

Thornton said that electronic processing is a service offered by the larger banks and commitments should be honored immediately by the bigger banks.

Fredricks said the failure by correspondent banks to fulfill their commitments has caused "a few delays here and there." As these problems surface, Fredricks said, either a payroll office supervisor or representative of the serviced organization's finance and accounting office should contact these organizations. This usually solves the problem.

Extracted from "News Release," Nov. 12, 1980; Omaha District.

Handling stress

In business, it comes readily, steadily, inevitably. Recognizing that stress has a lifelong influence on you, what can you do about handling it? Some suggestions from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare:

* **WORK OFF STRESS.** If you are angry or upset, try to blow off steam physically through activities such as running, tennis, gardening, walking, etc.

* **TALK OUT YOUR WORRIES.** It helps to share worries with someone you trust and respect. Sometimes another person can help you see a new side to your problem and thus, a new solution.

* **LEARN TO ACCEPT WHAT YOU CANNOT CHANGE.** If the problem is beyond your control at this time, try your best to accept it until you can change it.

* **AVOID SELF-MEDICATION.** Although there are many chemicals, including alcohol, that can mask stress symptoms, they do not help you adjust to the stress itself.

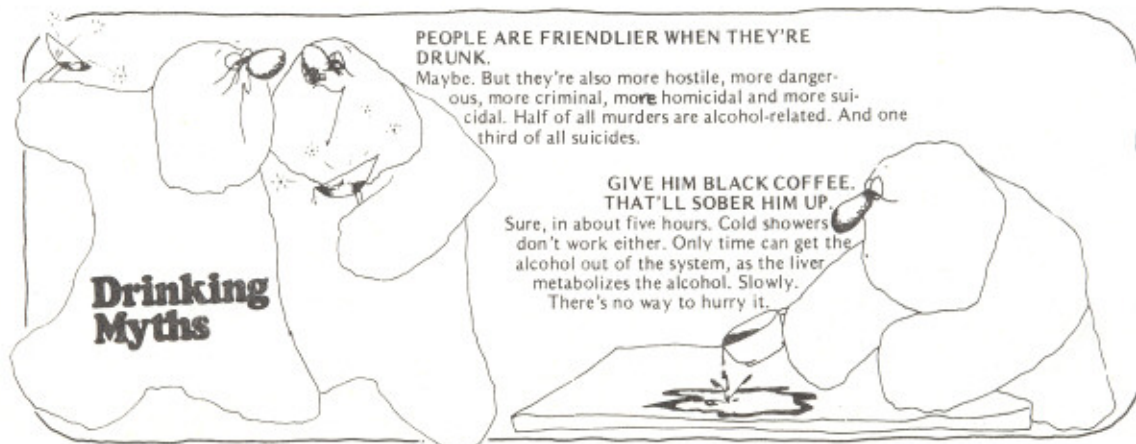
* **GET ENOUGH SLEEP AND REST.** Lack of sleep can lessen your ability to deal with stress by making you more irritable.

* **BALANCE WORK AND RECREATION.** All work and no play can make you a nervous wreck. Schedule time for recreation to relax your mind.

* **DO SOMETHING FOR OTHERS.** Sometimes when you are distressed, you concentrate too much on yourself and your situation. Do something for someone else, and get your mind off yourself.

* **TAKE ONE THING AT A TIME.** Don't tackle many things at once. Instead, set some aside and work on the most urgent.

Extracted from "Information Bulletin," Vol. 13, No. 80-15, Nov. 19, 1980; Pacific Ocean Division.



Secretaries are professionals too

There is a tendency to view many positions in the United States economy held predominately by women as low status jobs and to have less regard for the work of persons in such positions. This is particularly true in the case of secretaries.

Today, there is little recognition of the professional character of much of this work or the fact that the competent secretary relieves the manager of as much work as possible by doing it for the manager or channeling it to other subordinates. The skilled, professional secretary has to read, think, discuss, supervise, and listen, just as do incumbents of other positions.

Beyond this, the secretary must soothe ruffled feathers and be certain that the office over which she or he presides operates smoothly and at the peak of efficiency. Personal traits such as tact, discretion, loyalty, and trustworthiness are essential.

It is perhaps because of these latter duties and requirements that some secretaries in federal agencies are victims of stereotyped views.

The fact is that many secretaries make major contributions to the work programs for which their supervisors have responsibility; if encouraged, they can contribute even more.

It is recommended that all employees carefully assess their attitudes and working habits as they relate to secretarial, clerical, and other supportive positions to insure that all positions and the employees who fill them are accorded the respect and fairness due them.

The following specific suggestions may help eliminate some of the more offensive treatment that too many secretaries have come to accept:

- * Professional secretaries and other clerical staff should be accepted by management as integral members of working teams.
- * Ideas of secretaries and clerical staff should be actively solicited and credit should be given to those who contribute useful ideas.
- * Secretaries and clerical staff members should be encouraged to participate in staff discussions, to extend their interest, and to seek training opportunities.
- * Clerical staff should be commended for the use of intelligence and initiative as well as the performance of routine functions.
- * Demeaning and unnecessary classifications such as "nonprofessional" should be dropped.
- * Realistic time allowances for performance of secretarial and clerical work involved in a work program or task should be built into deadlines.
- * Attitudes of superiority on the part of some staff to subordinates in secretarial and clerical positions should be recognized, called to the attention of offending employees, and changed.
- * Secretaries and clerical staff should be accorded the same courtesies extended to all other staff.
- * Titles such as Ms. and Mr. should be uniformly used or dropped for all employees.

Extracted from "Women In Action," Vol. 10, No. 5, September/October 1980; Office of Personnel Management.



STILL ASLEEP AFTER HER LONG JOURNEY from Calcutta, India, newly adopted Amber Dawn, age two months, snuggled in the arms of her new mom Jean Turcotte, DO, at the airport in October 1980. (Photo courtesy of Jean Turcotte)



Israeli air bases:

Peace treaty puts U.S. on a desert fast track

After a shaky start and now with only 18 months to go, U.S. design-construct forces are driving to complete on time one of the cornerstones of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt--the construction of two new Israeli air force bases in the Negev Desert.

They are driving hard because they are being driven hard by a treaty-mandated timetable that gives them three years--less than half the time estimated--to replicate in the Negev two tactical air bases the Israelis built on captured Sinai territory following the 1967 Arab-Israeli War. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat demanded clear title to the Sinai peninsula by 1982.

To make peace, President Carter pledged that the U.S. would build the bases in three years. And as a sweetener, he offered the Israelis an \$800-million grant to help pay for the work.

The historic treaty was ratified in April 1979, and the date set for completion of the bases: April 25, 1982.

Since then, time and the Corps of Engineers have been running.

The Corps, picked by the U.S. Defense Department as the construction agent, pulled out all stops and in a little over a month lined up an signed up for the cost-plus

projects two design-construct teams, one for each of the 6,000-acre bases, and a third team to provide the Corps with across-the-board management assistance.

For the base at Ramon, about 110 miles south of Tel Aviv, the Corps picked a joint venture of construction firms from San Francisco, Honolulu, and New York City. For the second base at Ovda, about 120 miles south of Tel Aviv and deep in the desert, the Corps selected a joint venture team of construction firms from Framingham, Mass.; Birmingham, Ala.; Greensboro, N.C.; and East Orange, N.J. Rounding out the triumvirate to provide the Corps with engineering, construction management and other support services is a joint venture of construction firms from Chicago and New York City.

The construction order for each of the fighter bases includes: a pair of 10,000-ft runways, high-speed taxiways, aprons, hangars, maintenance shops, housing, utility lines, and below ground reinforced concrete aircraft shelters and command bunkers.

"By April 25, 1982 the Israelis must be out (of the Sinai)," said U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Paul Hartung, the program manager. "The program is to get them (the Negev bases) operational. The project is construction. Time is the challenge on this job and the schedule drives it," he said. "When I get impatient with the way things are going, I scream and holler..."

Considering the pressures and problems, it's no wonder Hartung hollers and other top officials put in 12 and 14-hour days. If they aren't busy "finding" time stolen by rainstorms that turned one base into a sea of mud or sandstorms that choked workers and equipment at the other, they are answering charges in the Israeli press that:

- * The project is way over cost.
- * Key project personnel have been sent packing because of inefficiency, malfeasance or corruption.
- * 300-plus Portuguese workers were fired following a "labor disturbance" touched off by poor food, pay and housing.

For Hartung, the problem is that the charges are factual--up to a point.

Fact: At Ramon, nearly ¼ of the 1,400-man Portuguese work force was fired because of a disturbance of a daylong demonstration replete with speeches promoting various left-wing Portuguese cause. What sparked it

(see page sixteen)



HARD AT WORK IN THE NEWLY REMODELED St. Paul District Automatic Data Processing (ADP) Center were (from left to right) Betti Rydl, Julie Teigland, Frank Sager, and Luann Oolman. ADP held an open house on Nov. 26 to celebrate the installation of its new computer system.

Fishing contest lures in efforts

by Wilbur Walleye



Herb Nelson (left), Greg Schroeder and the trophy.

Fast luncheon to be held

Roger G. Fast, former chief of the Engineering Division, will retire from the St. Paul District on Jan. 9, 1981 after 32 years of service with the district.

A retirement luncheon will be held for Roger on Jan. 9, 1981 at the St. Paul Athletic Club, 340 Cedar St., St. Paul. A cash bar will be available at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m. The menu includes London Broil, potato, vegetable, salad, roll, and coffee. The price of the luncheon will be approximately \$7.50 (includes sales tax and gratuity) and will be confirmed when you make your reservation.

Mark your calendar to set aside Jan. 9 and come help Roger celebrate his retirement. Make your reservation with Peggy Peterson, 725-7566, no later than Jan. 2, 1981.



The St. Paul District Fishing Contest is about over. The last day to catch fish for the 1980 contest is Dec. 31, 1980. All entries must be submitted no later than Jan. 15, 1981. Awards and trophies will be presented in February 1981.

In the continuing saga of the fisherman versus the fish, recognition was recently made to Herb Nelson, ED-PB, and Greg Schroeder, ED-PB, for their memorable fishing trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA), Minn. The traveling Belly-up Award was given to them for their efforts.

Herb and Greg each took two days of annual leave to get an early start on a four-day fishing trip. The major objective of the trip was to hook several bonus-sized fish to enhance their standings in the fishing contest.

On the morning of Sept. 18, 1980, they left the Twin Cities in a borrowed truck with a borrowed canoe. When they reached the BWCA, Herb and Greg parked the truck. After making several major canoe portages in an effort to reach their destination, to their dismay they saw a pickup truck which had managed to drive further on in their direction on a different trail -- if only they had done the same! That was Herb and Greg's first indication of the things that would go wrong on the trip.

It began to rain as they set up camp for the night. When they tried to start their camp stove, it wouldn't work. It was also too late to start a camp fire because all of the available firewood was wet. Greg and Herb spent a cold evening contemplating the next day's fishing.

By morning, things got worse -- it was raining harder. Around 11 a.m. they were so disenchanted with their trip that they decided to return home.

Seven rain-drenched hours and two ripped raincoats later, Greg and Herb finally reached their truck. At midnight, they surprised their wives by arriving home two days early.

Not once during the entire trip were they able to even get a chance to sink their hooks into the waters in hopes of a nibble. However, they both have recovered from the soaking experience and are ready to tackle next year's fishing trip. Better luck next time to Greg and Herb!

Israeli air bases & the Corps

(from page fourteen)

was the search, in a camp recreation hall, of a number of Portuguese workers suspected of stealing.

Fact: An American was fired over an incident involving an irregularity in the use of items purchased at a commissary. There were also management changes at the high and intermediate levels of a contracted design-construction team.

Fact: The time compression necessitated fast-tracking construction which, say project officials is 20% more expensive than conventional construction. However, says Hartung, this is misleading because the bases would take five years to build using conventional methods and that means having to take two more years of inflation into account.

With every order, every paycheck that goes out, Israel moves inexorably closer to the day that it must start picking up the tab

for the work, a fact that colors nearly every decision.

The color is red because Israel must pay the difference between the \$800-million U.S. grant the actual cost, estimated at \$1.04 billion.

Corps Near East Project Office Chief Brig. Gen. John Wall has no illusions as to what the job means to the peace treaty ("critical") or to his career ("it's a high-risk job for me").

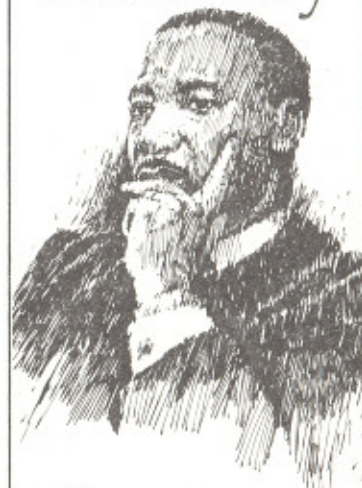
Not even the unexpected, "the aligators out there," as he calls it, is likely to stop Wall and his construction forces. As he sees it, "We've got one alternative to finishing on time and that's finishing early."

Extracted from "Engineering News-Record," Vol. 205, No. 18, Oct. 30, 1980.

GS Level	New Pay Schedule									
	1	2	3	4	Steps		7	8	9	10
1	\$7,960	\$8,255	\$8,490	\$8,755	\$9,020	\$9,069	\$9,189	\$9,444	\$9,699	\$9,654
2	8,951	9,069	9,242	9,531	9,820	10,109	10,398	10,687	10,976	11,265
3	9,766	10,092	10,418	10,744	11,070	11,396	11,722	12,048	12,374	12,700
4	10,963	11,328	11,693	12,058	12,423	12,788	13,153	13,518	13,883	14,248
5	12,266	12,675	13,084	13,493	13,902	14,311	14,720	15,129	15,538	15,947
6	13,672	14,128	14,584	15,040	15,496	15,952	16,408	16,864	17,320	17,776
7	15,193	15,699	16,205	16,711	17,217	17,723	18,229	18,735	19,241	19,747
8	16,826	17,387	17,948	18,509	19,070	19,631	20,192	20,753	21,314	21,875
9	18,585	19,205	19,825	20,445	21,065	21,685	22,305	22,925	23,545	24,165
10	20,467	21,149	21,831	22,513	23,195	23,877	24,559	25,241	25,923	26,605
11	22,486	23,236	23,986	24,736	25,486	26,236	26,986	27,736	28,486	29,236
12	26,951	27,849	28,747	29,645	30,543	31,441	32,339	33,237	34,135	35,033
13	32,048	33,116	34,184	35,252	36,320	37,388	38,456	39,524	40,592	41,660
14	37,871	39,133	40,395	41,657	42,919	44,181	45,443	46,705	47,967	49,229
15	44,547	46,032	47,517	49,002	*50,487	*51,972	*53,457	*54,942	*56,427	*57,912
16	49,198	*50,838	*52,478	*54,118	*55,758	*57,398	*59,038	*60,678	*62,318	*63,958
17	*53,849	*55,644	*57,439	*59,234	*61,029	*62,824	*64,619	*66,414	*68,209	*70,004
18	*58,500									

*The rate of basic pay payable for employees at these rates is limited to the rate for level V of the Executive Schedule, which is to remain at \$50,112.50.

Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday



January 15th

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