



CROSSCURRENTS

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

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SEPTEMBER 1980

Morris to retire this month from active duty

Lt. Gen. John W. Morris, the chief of engineers since July 1976, will retire from active duty Sept. 30.

In a career spanning more than 37 years, Morris has held increasingly responsible positions, both as a military commander and as a manager of far-ranging Corps programs and projects.

The following is an excerpt from closing remarks made by Morris:

"As I near the end of this assignment I think it is appropriate to reflect on the job of the chief of engineers; or more specifically what does the chief of engineers do and should do. First, the chief of engineers should set a tone and style for the organization whether he wants to or not.

Secondly, I think the chief of engineers has to defend the Corps from those who would

harm it; to defend the Corps from those who would harm it means survival.

The chief of engineers should evaluate and measure the Corps' successes and failures in doing its job, and then do something about it.

The fourth thing the chief of engineers should do is try to ensure that the Corps' future is at least as long as its past; he must be alert to changing objectives, both military and national.

Finally, the chief of engineers should lead everyone to work together; the Engineer Family is understrength for the job it has.

General Vogel, a well-known retired engineer general, has a statement to the effect that there has never been a chief of engineers worthy of the Corps--and that's the truth!"

Bratton named to be new chief

Maj. Gen. Joseph K. Bratton, South Atlantic Division Engineer, was nominated in late July by President Carter to be the next chief of engineers.

If confirmed by the Senate, Bratton will succeed Lt. Gen. John Morris on Oct. 1. Bratton has also been nominated to the grade of lieutenant general.

Morris, who retires Sept. 30, announced in late July that Bratton will serve as deputy chief of engineers in August and September. Maj. Gen. James Johnson, current deputy chief of engineers, retired July 31.

Bratton's assignments have included the Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.; chief of Nuclear Activities, Supreme Headquarters of Allied Powers, Europe; secretary to the Joint Chiefs of Staff; military assistant to the Secretary of the Army; Division of Reactor Development, Atomic Energy Commission; 24th Engineer Battalion with the 4th Armored Division in Europe; commander of the 159th Engineer group in Vietnam.

(See page 4)



IT'S ONLY A PLACE ON THE MAP RIGHT NOW, but to Dave Christenson (left), Bruce Ragan (right), and John Bailen (far right), Saudi Arabia will soon become a reality to them as it is for Rich Howard. Turn to page 3 for the complete story.



From the editor's desk

Thanks so much for the articles submitted to Crosscurrents; you have been doing a great job. The contributions have been overwhelming.

Please continue to provide articles to us. We want to 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 deadline for submitting all articles to the next issue of Crosscurrents is Sept. 22.

Corps worker drowns at L/D 5

Paul R. Knepper, an employee for the Corps of Engineers at Lock and Dam 5, fell from the deck of a small cargo barge and drowned on July 22. There were no witnesses to the accident. Knepper could not swim.

Knepper, age 48, was found in the water by Lockmaster Irvin Kerkenbusch and other employees searching for him.

He was working on the deck when a fellow employee left the area to obtain equipment. Kerkenbusch estimated that Knepper had been in the water for 20-30 minutes.

Artificial respiration and CPR were applied while an ambulance was en route to the scene.

A resident of Galesville, Wisc., Knepper is survived by his wife, four sons, two daughters, two brothers and three sisters.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family.

District learning center opens

In early September 1980, the St. Paul District Training and Development Branch opened its new learning center in the district office building, Room 1033.

The learning center is a learning environment designed specially for satisfying individual learning needs using a variety of media. The learning environment shifts from teacher centered to the trainee interacting with multimedia resources which present the material. The learning center is an environment in which trainees have easy access to the learning materials and equipment, whereby they may perform a prescribed learning task at their own rate.

The learning center will provide a multiplicity of learning approaches. It will be a center concerned with helping employees learn what they need to know in order to carry out their organizations' mission and functions.

The center will also be concerned with the employee's personal training needs in relation to both the organization's mission and personal professional growth.

The learning center will have:

- * Independent study material, video tapes, slide materials, etc., readily available on shelves clearly marked.
- * A video tape area with viewing equipment easily accessible for programmed instruction usage or preview/review of non-instructional tapes; will also have earphone capability.
- * A 35mm slide area. A ringmaster projector with a viewing screen will be available with same capabilities as the video tape area.
- * Four study carrels for individual study purposes.
- * Video tape production capability.

Under consideration for future utilization into the learning center are computer based instruction and University of Minnesota closed circuit TV services.

The learning center is scheduled for an open house to be held in October.

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The Saudi Arabian connection

Joining the ranks of approximately 1,400 Corps of Engineers employees working with or in Saudi Arabia are four St. Paul District members.

Of the seven selected district employees eligible for the 90-day temporary duty assignment in Saudi Arabia, four accepted -- Richard Howard, CO-RF; David Christenson, ED-PB; John Bailen, ED-PB; and Bruce Ragan, CO-CT.

On July 27, Rich eagerly and excitedly left the Twin Cities for Saudi Arabia. However, before his plane left the ground, Rich's flight was delayed for several hours due to a bomb threat.

After many long weeks of muddling through paperwork and medical shots and waiting for their visas, John and Dave finally left the Twin Cities in mid-August. Anxious and a bit impatient is Bruce, who is still waiting for his visa; he is hoping to leave in early September.

The Corps of Engineers has been in Saudi Arabia since 1951 with the construction of a United States Air Force Base at Dhahran, an airfield that was later turned over to the Saudi Arabian government. Additional United States-funded projects followed.

In the 1960s, Saudi Arabia requested the services of the Corps to accomplish construction programs which Saudi Arabia would fund. This initiated a series of formal government-to-government agreements.

Today, the Corps of Engineers Middle East Division is involved in several major agreement programs, all funded entirely by the Saudi Arabian government.

Under one of the programs, the Engineer Assistance Agreement, the United States is to provide advice and assistance in the construction of certain military facilities for the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Defense and Aviation.

One of the construction projects of the agreement calls for the development of a massive military city for 70,000 people -- military, dependents, and facilities operation and maintenance personnel -- at Wadi Al Batin, a barren stretch of desert south of the Iraq border. Called the King Khalid Military City, this cantonment is scheduled for completion in the mid-1980s. To perform this work, most Corps contractors must bring in their entire labor force and provide them with housing, food, and recreation. Most of the construction machinery and material must also be imported.

Another construction project of the Engineer Assistance Agreement is the development of a Ministry of Defense and Aviation headquarters complex and Royal Saudi Air Force headquarters in Riyadh, and the King Abdulaziz Military Academy near Riyadh.

Several other major agreement programs provide support to the Saudi Arabian Navy, the Royal Saudi Army's logistic system, and the Saudi Arabian National Guard.

Before the St. Paul District personnel left the Twin Cities, District Engineer Col. William Badger gave a briefing to them on their venture. Since Col. Badger was stationed in Saudi Arabia for two tours of duty, he was able to tell the four departing employees what to expect in the foreign country.

Rich, Dave, and John are scheduled to work at the King Khalid Military City in the Al Batin district, while Bruce is destined for Riyadh. They will be working in either construction contracts administration, cost estimation, or construction inspection.

Although the best known characteristic of Saudi Arabia is the desert with its intense summer heat, the terrain does actually have a great deal of variety, rising to 9000 feet in 30 miles from the Red Sea, remaining at 8000 feet near Mecca, dropping to about 3000 near Medina, and continuing northerly at about the same elevation. The mountain ranges are magnificently rugged.

The southeastern portion of the kingdom is desert, called Rub Al-Khali or Empty Quarter, nearly the size of Texas and is one of the largest continuous bodies of sand in the world. Sand dunes rise in the Rub Al-Khali to a height of 800 feet.

In the summer, temperatures in the shade average about 120 degrees over much of the peninsula. The average rainfall is less than five inches annually.

Tap water is not suitable for drinking at most locations in Saudi Arabia. Drinking water is delivered to a potable water point within Corps housing and office compounds.

In Saudi Arabia, the religion of Islam dominates and binds the people together; it influences the culture, the life-styles, the social customs, and values and beliefs. Moslems are religiously prohibited from eating pork and drinking alcohol. Saudi women's faces are not seen by men other than relatives and close friends; they wear a black garment called an "abayh" which covers them from head to foot. Most Saudi men wear the traditional "thobe," a full length, long-sleeved garment usually made of white materials.

Bratton named chief

(From page 1)

Bratton is a 1948 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He holds a master's degree in nuclear engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

Among his military awards are the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Army Distinguished Service Medal, two Bronze Star Medals, two Air Medals, three Legions of Merit, and four Army Commendation Medals.

A native of St. Paul, Minn., Bratton is married to the former Louise Skelly of Terre Haute, Ind. They have five children.

Smith announced to replace Harris

Brig. Gen. Scott B. Smith was named as division engineer of the North Central Division, Chicago, Ill., effective later this year.

Smith will succeed Maj. Gen. Richard Harris. Smith is currently assistant division commander, 7th Infantry Division, Fort Ord, Calif.

Smith's assignments have included Engineer-in-Forces Command, Atlanta, Ga.; district engineer, Huntington District, Huntington, W. Va.; and overseas assignments in Korea, Germany, and Vietnam.

A 1956 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, Smith received a master of science degree in civil engineering at the University of Illinois and a master of public administration degree at Pennsylvania State University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the British Staff College and the Army War College.

Among his military awards are the Silver Star, Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters and V Device, 20 Air Medals with V Devices, Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters with V Devices, and the Purple Heart.

Robertson named deputy director

Col. George R. Robertson, executive director of civil works, was named deputy director of civil works, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington, D.C. in mid-August.

Robertson succeeds Brig. Gen. Hugh Robinson, who will become division engineer of the Southwestern Division, Dallas, Tex.

Robertson's assignments have included 4th Engineer Battalion operations officer, Vietnam; 36th Engineer Battalion commander, Vietnam; Office of the Chief of Research and Development, Washington, D.C.; district engineer of the Alaska District.

A 1958 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, Robertson received master's degrees in civil engineering and in theoretical and applied mechanics from the University of Illinois. He also received a master of public administration from Pennsylvania State University. He is a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College and the U.S. Army War College.

Among his military awards are the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

A native of Turin, Ga., Robertson is married to the former Gale Babcock of Newport News, Va. They have four children.

Recent survey yields good response

by Jan Pream, CO;
and Pat Westfall, ED-D

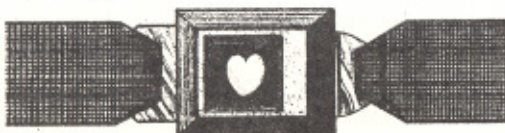
The response received from a recent survey revealed that 54 people in the St. Paul District have need for a convenient and reliable child day-care center during their working hours. One interesting fact was that of the 54 replies regarding this parental concern, 30 were from mothers and 24 were from fathers.

The survey was conducted by the Day-care Committee of the Federal Women's Program to determine how much difficulty working parents face in finding day-care for their children.

The Committee plans to explore every possible avenue in trying to locate space or facilities near the district office building for establishment or use of a child care center. While parents would still pay the usual fee for child care, a nearby facility would ease the problem of transportation for parents and their children.

If you have not submitted your survey response and would like to, or for more information contact Pat Westfall at 725-7620 or Jan Pream at 725-7047.

**PREVENT
BROKEN HEARTS**



USE YOUR SEAT BELT

Meeting scheduled on water, human values

The general public is invited to attend a one and one-half day conference on water problems and issues, especially the changing values and attitudes of water as a limited resource.

The conference will begin at the Radisson Hotel in St. Paul, Minn. on Sept. 28 in the late afternoon, with a dinner in the evening. The conference will continue the following morning and into the late afternoon, with a luncheon.

Several of the co-sponsors of the conference include: the Freshwater Society, Minnesota Department of Health, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Minnesota Medical Association, Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission, University of Minnesota, and Winona State University.

Pre-registration fee is \$35 for individuals and \$20 for students and senior citizens; at the door fees are \$45 and \$25, respectively. The fee includes two meals and refreshments, all presentations, and conference materials. Pre-registration without food for individuals are \$15 and \$5 for students and senior citizens; at the door fees without food are \$25 and \$10 respectively.

For further information or to register, contact: Freshwater Society, 2500 Shadywood Road, Box 90, Navarre, Minn. 55392; phone (612) 471-8407.

District select new Vulcan

by Leonard Gloeb, DO

The St. Paul District has a new Vulcan residing in the ADP Center. No, not a Vulcan connected with the St. Paul Winter Carnival. This Vulcan is the operation system of our new Harris H500 mini-computer system.

In late January 1980, the ADP Center received authorization to replace the aged and floundering GE-225 computer. After several long months of red tape, a contract for a new Harris H500 was awarded on July 2.

The Harris H500 is a general purpose mini-computer. It is designed to provide the capability of running both business and scientific type applications as well as management information files. The system has a capacity of 192,000 words of memory and a disc storage capacity of 200 million words.

Compared with the old system, the GE-225 had a capacity of only 8,000 words of memory and was approximately 50 times slower than the Harris H500.

A number of arrangements had to be made to prepare the existing site for the new equipment. The GE-225 had to be dismantled and removed, as did the old air conditioner system, already too small and not suitable for the planned rehabilitation. A contract was let for a new environmental control system to provide approximately 175,000 BTU's of cooling.

A raised flooring system was installed to provide a plenum for the conditioned air and support of various ADP equipment. The windows in the computer room were covered with Armstrong Thermalon which provides greater energy efficiency and eliminates the condensation problem in the winter. New electrical runs were required for the equipment, all concealed under the flooring. A new administrative telephone system and a totally new data communication system was installed. The latter has enough lines terminating in the Center to provide for all future needs.

Some of the changes accomplished were directly related to ADP security requirements contained in army regulations. The programming branch was moved to provide control over magnetic tape and punch card files. This also provides the programmers with a much quieter work environment.

The site preparation required the efforts and talents of many including the quick response of Procurement to obtain special electrical supplies. To all who participated in these efforts and to our understanding users who had to wait longer for some runs... thanks!

A drop in the bucket?

Just set a little something aside through the Payroll Savings Plan.

It may seem like a drop in the bucket at first. But payday after payday, year after year, all those

•United States Savings Bonds make your future so much fuller.



Career management system: what is it

by Vicki Demo, EP-C

The civilian career management system is the centralized management of key professional, technical, and administrative employees.

The civilian system parallels the military personnel management system for officer personnel. For example, like the military system's West Point, ROTC, and Officer Candidate Schools, the civilian system needs to ensure that at any given time we have a Corps group of interns in training to meet projected Army-wide requirements. We also need to ensure that we have a highly trained and adequately staffed work force to support the military in achieving its world-wide mission requirements.

Several separate civilian career programs apply to the St. Paul District including Engineers & Scientists, Comptroller, Supply, ADP, Education & Training, Procurement, Materiel Maintenance, Civilian Personnel, Information & Editorial, Intelligence, Safety, Library, Manpower, EEO, and Records Management.

We recruit new people into the career management system on a continual basis to meet staffing needs and to effectively pursue Equal Employment Opportunity goals and objectives.

Most of our intake into career programs occurs at intern entry levels. An intern is an individual who is provided systematic formal training in preparation for journeyman-level performance, and who is eligible for noncompetitive promotion to a target job after having served satisfactorily for the prescribed time at each grade level leading to the target job.

The Skills, Knowledge, Abilities, and other Personal Characteristics (SKAP) appraisal is designed to evaluate the degree to which employees possess necessary qualifications to achieve their individual career goals. The SKAP appraisal is comprised of ratings assigned by the employee, supervisor, and reviewer.

The career program screening panels are convened on an annual basis. The screening panels review experience records and SKAP appraisals. Then, the panels assign final ratings to the elements required for assignment of job categories requested by the careerist.

The central inventory and referral is the vehicle used to fill most of our professional, technical, and administrative positions. It contains experience records, availability forms, SKAP appraisals, and referral rosters.

The DA referral list, an important end product of the career management system, is the official list of best qualified candidates available for a vacant position.

If you are interested in registering for the system or want more information, contact Vicki Demo at 725-7513.

Flooding handbook offered

The Office of Federal Insurance and Hazard Mitigation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued a manual which provides guidance to homeowners, contractors, and local government officials for minimizing injury and property damage from floods.

"Flood Emergency and Residential Repair Handbook," prepared by the National Association of Homebuilders Research Advisory Board of the National Academy of Science, details preparedness work that can be done in the home before a flood strikes, and describes the step-by-step clean-up procedures and repairs for household goods and appliances that can be accomplished by the resident after flooding occurs. Suggestions are made for structural alterations that can be made to a building to afford temporary or permanent resistance to flood damage. Additional sections of the manual are devoted to explanations of the National Flood Insurance Program and ways in which communities may cooperate to decrease their vulnerability to flooding.

The manual is available from The Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Stock number 023-000-00552-2. \$3.50.

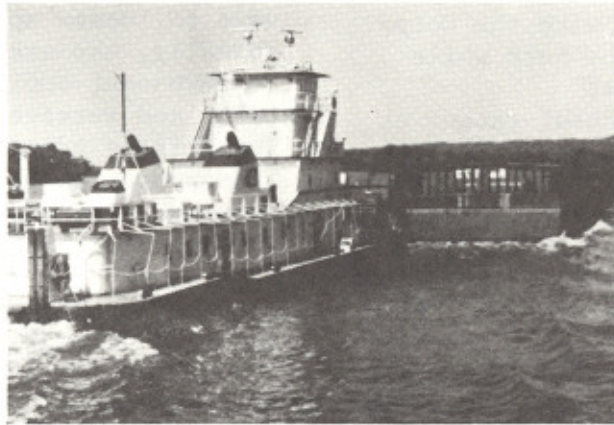
From "Natural Hazards Observer," Vol. 4, No. 4; June 1980; University of Colorado.

At the St. Paul District locks

We can't identify all the lock workers caught here as the tour cruiser "Viking Explorer" recently made its way down river from the Twin Cities to Dubuque, Iowa.

But service at the District locks was nevertheless reported to be excellent. In fact, the friendly encounter of "locking through" greatly enhanced the down-river odyssey of the St. Paul-based mini-cruise ship.

The average wait to lock through the 11 locks on the stretch was about 20 minutes. The longest wait was for the double lockage of a grain tow, which held the Viking Explorer up for an hour and a half at Lock and Dam 8.



Commercial tow passing by.



Rec area keeps Corps busy

Fourteen permanent, seasonal, and temporary employees of the Corps of Engineers at Lake Ashtabula are kept very busy throughout the summer months trying to maintain a high standard of excellent service to the area.

Park Manager Chuck Adams stated that the employees must maintain the camping grounds and recreation areas, plus do routine maintenance on the dam and building sites which many times goes unnoticed, but yet takes many man hours to accomplish.

But Adams, who took over as manager in January following the death of former manager Mel Rieman, said that there is a "very good crew out here that does an excellent job."

Of the 14 crew members, Dave Salberg, sewage treatment plant operator, has had 11 continuous years of service with the Corps. He was interim manager of the park while waiting the arrival of Adams.

Steve Odegaard is the chief ranger at the lake. He and four other rangers, Tom Novak, Jerry Lee, Bruce Ostilie and Molly Shriner, are in charge of patrolling the areas, furnishing information to visitors, collecting fees in camp areas, and issuing warnings and citations for violations that occur on park property.

Maintenance workers Howard Dittmer, Jeff Huseby, Arthur Grindler and Bruce O'Neel are in charge of keeping the machines and buildings in good working condition. Laborers are Dwight Randall and Clarence Risser. They help keep the camp grounds and public use areas in good shape.

Secretary for the parks management department is Vicki Rosenau.

Another employee, Orville Vogel, is operator of Homme Dam near Park River, N.D. Though he lives and works in that area, he is still considered an employee with the Corps stationed at Lake Ashtabula.

The Corps has been under more of a strain this year than they have in the past. Federal funding has been cut back, and as a result, there is a personnel shortage of six from last year's number of employees. Thus, the Corps is faced with the problem of more work, less people to do more, and less money.

Under the circumstances, the present employees have done "a great job," according to Adams.

Extracted from the Valley City, N.D. Times-Record; July 17, 1980.

Job announcements: what are they

by Rich Laddusire, EP-E

Job openings for specific permanent positions are advertised in a job opportunity announcement. This announcement gives permanent employees a chance to compete with other permanent employees for promotions; the announcement is open for 10 calendar days and closes on a workday.

The specific position title, grade, duties, promotion potential, and qualifications are shown on the announcement. The announcement is issued after consultation with the selecting supervisor and the critical elements of the job, called the Highly Qualified Criteria, are identified.

The area of consideration is also determined and stated on the announcement; it states the recruitment methods that will be used to locate applicants for the position. Normally, the area of consideration will only be permanent employees of the St. Paul District and serviced activities which includes Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, Army Transportation Office, District Recruiting Command, Army and Air Force Entrance and Examining Station, and Office of Surgeon General.

If no permanent employees apply, then the area of consideration may be expanded to transfer eligible employees from other federal agencies or to eligibles on the Office Personnel Management list (certificate).

The area of consideration will be expanded to recruit enough applicants to prepare a referral list for the selecting supervisor.

Another type of job announcement, the open job opportunity announcement, is usually issued at the beginning of the calendar year. It is done for clerk-typists, clerk-stenographers, civil engineers, biologists, lock and dam operators, deckhands, and other jobs on dredges. There might not be a specific opening at that time so the application will be held until that position becomes vacant and then a referral list will be prepared. Individual announcements are not issued for jobs covered by an open announcement.

For more information, contact Rich Laddusire at 725-7514.

**GAS LASTS AT
55 MPH**

Mt. St. Helens eruption: impact and civil engineering response

On May 18, the geological event of a lifetime took place -- with an energy release said to be equivalent to a 20 to 50 megaton nuclear weapon. It was the eruption of the volcanic Mount St. Helens in southern Washington state.

The eruption's impact has been almost unbelievable -- some 70 square miles of forest is "totally devastated," says Tom Beckman of the U.S. Forest Service. This area has no trees left because they were blown away or are covered by mud flows.

80 miles east of the mountain, in Yakima, Washington, dust blanketed the city 1 in. thick.

When the mountain's north side collapsed in explosions of gas, dust and ash, it melted mountain-top snow, which cascaded down the mountain, creating a huge mud flow.

It was the mud flow rushing down the Toutle River Valley that caused flooding, and the mud places buried roads to a depth of 200 ft.

A massive slug of that mud remains in the Toutle valley, creating a dam that is backing up water behind it. Les Youd of the U.S. Geological Survey, examined the dam, and labels it "very stable. I see no danger that it will liquefy, pipe, or in other ways become unstable."

Unfortunately, a massive slug of the mud and debris is also residing on the bed of the Columbia River. Says Mary Portner of the Corps of Engineers, Portland, the river's channel is normally 40 ft. deep, but the flow

reduced that to 14 ft., blocking the channel linking the Port of Portland and the Pacific Ocean. The deposit has about 55 million cu. yd. of material. The 600 ft. wide navigation channel will not be fully dredged back to normal until September, Portner says.

The sediment backed up ships for several days. Happily by mid-June, with "only" 2 million cu. yd. of debris and mud dredged out and a 200 ft. x 29 ft. channel created, one-way traffic of ships with fairly deep draft could pass the bar during high tide. By June 20, about a month after Mount St. Helens blew, more than 100 ships had passed the blockage. Six dredges are at work.

The volume of ash emitted was almost unimaginably huge. At a distance of 20 miles it covered the ground to a depth of 3 in.

The ash is a gray powder, with most particles seemingly as fine as talcum powder, and the largest grains like sand. The ash looks a lot like cement powder, one witness reports.

The ash is so fine, when dry it cannot be swept up. It must be wetted first. "I even got an industrial vacuum cleaner to suck it up, but this failed, too," reports civil engineer Carter Harrison of Portland. "The extraordinarily fine powder plugged it up. So first I sprinkled my ash-covered driveway with water until the ash was damp, then swept most of it up, then thoroughly wetted the small amount remaining and flushed it off."

Because of its fineness, the ash powder has tremendous surface area. This means that when wetted it will hold much water, thus when saturated is heavy (perhaps 80 lb. per cu. ft.).

Yakima's sewage treatment plant was hit with ash that arrived with storm water. (The stormwater was carried through illegal cross-connections in the sanitary-only sewer system.) The ash plugged up machinery, putting the plant out of business for three to four days.

"We had to bypass raw sewage into the Yakima River for that period," says Yakima's City Engineer Denny Covell, "so we heavily chlorinated it to minimize potential contamination problems."

Extracted from "Civil Engineering-ASCE," Vol. 50, No. 8; August 1980.

Blumenfeld and Heiberg visit district

Honorable Michael Blumenfeld, Assistant Secretary of Army, and Maj. Gen. E.R. Heiberg, III, Director, Civil Works, visited the St. Paul District Office on Aug. 5 to review the status of various activities and projects.

Blumenfeld and Heiberg were briefed by district staff members on different projects including the GREAT River Study, Red River Recon Study, Mobilization Planning, and Lock and Dam 1 Rehabilitation Project.

Mt. St. Helens eruption: the role of the Army Corps of Engineers

It was early morning of May 19, 1980, when a freighter, the Hoegh Mascot, making its way slowly up the Columbia River, went aground in the middle of the 40-ft. channel near Longview, Washington.

The incident was the first indication of the damage the massive eruption of Mt. St. Helens, which occurred the previous day, had done to the Columbia River channel. Within minutes of being informed of the grounding the Portland District dispatched a survey boat to the scene.

The massive floods of mud, ash and debris that followed the eruption surged down the two forks of the Toutle River, down the Cowlitz and into the Columbia causing the shoal on which the Hoegh Mascot had gone aground. The Columbia channel was blocked by mud and debris estimated at 55 million cu. yd. and reduced channel depth to as low as 14 ft. in spots for a distance of nine and a half miles.

Three Corps hopper dredges -- Biddle, Pacific, and Harding -- went to work immediately to restore navigation by cutting a channel through the shoal on the Oregon side of the Columbia River. Meanwhile, the pipeline dredge Oregon, worked on a second channel on the north side. By June 22, a 35 x 300-ft. channel was cut. Ships trapped at Kalama, Vancouver, and Portland were thus permitted access to the Pacific and upstream traffic was restored. With the aid of contract pipeline dredges at work, the 40 x 600-ft. channel should be restored by the end of November.

The problem of the Cowlitz River is more exotic and perhaps more formidable than that on the Columbia.

The U.S. Geological Survey, reporting on the flooding of the Toutle and Cowlitz Valleys, spoke in terms of mudflows on the mountain's northwest flank "destroying" several rivers. An estimated 46 billion gallons of melted glacial ice, plus the outflow from Spirit Lake, mixed with ash, sand and debris, moved down the mountain at 30 miles per hour through the Toutle Valley, spread out into the Cowlitz River and moved 23 miles to the Columbia. Thousands of residents evacuated their homes.

To restore the flow capacity of the Cowlitz and protect several communities, the Corps embarked on a multi-faceted program.

On May 19, an emergency flood fight was declared. Roads and levees along the river were raised, debris was removed from some areas; aerial mapping of the area was done to determine the extent of the flooding.

Dredging of the Cowlitz started June 10 at the mouth. As of Aug. 5, eight pipeline dredges, 10 draglines, four backhoes, four tower-type drag scrapers, and 35 bulldozers were being utilized.

Other Corps work tasks included raising and reinforcing levee structures, and construction of two debris-retaining structures.

Another work task undertaken by the Corps has been that of providing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with Damage Survey Reports used to determine the amount of reimbursement available to state, local governments and other agencies affected by the ash fallouts.

Extracted from a statement released by the North Pacific Division, Public Affairs Office to the Federal Regional Council meeting at Seattle, Wash.; Aug. 5, 1980.

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Newspaper & The Advertising Council

**Today is
the first day
of the rest
of your life.**

**Give
blood,**

**so it can
be the
first day
of somebody
else's, too.**

**Red Cross
is counting
on you.**





Just between us

Congratulations go to Jan and Mike Schwalbe, L/D 1 Rehab, on the birth of son, John Paul, 8 lb., 3 oz., on Aug. 20.

New dispatcher assigned

by Al Rosenberg, CO-A

Robert Mike has been selected to become the Motor Vehicle Operator for the St. Paul District; he has the responsibility of dispatching all district government vehicles.

Robert replaces Charles Bridger who retired from the Corps a few months ago.

Requests for the use of government vehicles should be directed to Robert in Room 1109, at 725-7547. Make your reservations early to ensure availability of a vehicle.

Contest features exchange of banter

by John Blackstone, ED-HF

The Heritage Toastmasters Club will host the annual Area Nine Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contest on Sept. 26, at the Fort Snelling Officers Club. The public is invited to attend the event.

Area Nine participants include Toastmaster members from downtown St. Paul, Minn., especially from the Corps of Engineers.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m., dinner is served at 7 p.m., and the speech competition is scheduled for 8 p.m. Dinner reservations per person is \$9; admission for the speech competition only is \$2.

For more information or for reservations, contact Phil Schweitzer, CO-CT, at 725-5991. Come and see Toastmastering at its best!

In remembrance

Sympathy is extended to Marjorie Johnson, SO, on the passing of her mother.

Sadness is felt on the passing of former Corps employee, Henry J. Krohn in late July. He was with the St. Paul District from 1933 to 1966.

Federal Women's Program news

by Denise Blackwell, CO-RF

Nina Rothchild, Executive Director of the Council for Economic Status of Women will be the guest speaker for the September YWCA continental breakfast. Ms. Rothchild will speak on "Old Myths and New Myths: Minnesota Women Today." The breakfast will be held at the St. Paul downtown YWCA on Sept. 24 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The breakfast costs \$3 and advance registration is required. To register, call 222-3741.

Al-Anon holds sessions to cope

Have you heard of Al-Anon but were never sure what it is? Are you confused about the difference between Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon?

Al-Anon helps people cope with situations involving alcoholic friends and family members; the group focuses on the stress and emotions felt by persons who are close to alcoholics.

Anyone can attend Al-Anon. The St. Paul Al-Anon/Alateen Intergroup will host an open meeting on Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m., at Unity Unitarian Church on Portland and Grotto streets, St. Paul. For more information, call 222-3211.

Surprise meeting with friend

by Delores Sudeith, AS

While recently walking down the streets of historic Virginia City, Mont., I met former St. Paul District Corps of Engineers employee, Jim Roscoe.

It was a pleasure to see Jim and to meet his family. Jim is living in Dillon, Mont., and enjoys his work there. Jim says hello to all of his former co-workers in the Twin Cities.

I SHOULD'VE VOTED.

You know that's what you're going to say if your candidate doesn't win.

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National Hispanic Heritage Week

Sept. 14-20

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Hispanic peoples have played a distinguished role in the history of our Nation. They founded settlements in Florida and Georgia half a century before the Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts, and were homesteading in New Mexico more than 150 years before the War of Independence. The names of scores of American cities and towns--such as Los Angeles, Albuquerque, San Antonio, and Saint Augustine--remind us that many of the explorers and settlers who opened our frontiers were of Hispanic origin.

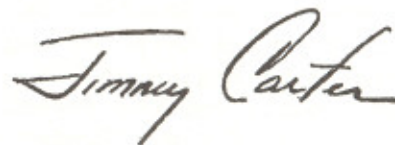
The Hispanic community has given us generals, admirals, philosophers, statesmen, musicians, athletes, and Nobel Prize-winning scientists. Hispanic Americans have contributed gallantly to the defense of our Nation, and many have received the highest decoration our country can bestow--the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Outstanding Hispanic men and women add daily to our Nation's accomplishments in science, technology, the arts, and politics. And Hispanic citizens contribute daily to the quality of our lives. Hispanics exhibit an eminent pride in our American heritage, a passionate love of family, a profound devotion to religion, and energetic commitment to hard work.

As we enter the 1980s, it is fitting that we pause to recognize and celebrate our Hispanic heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning September 14, 1980, as National Hispanic Week. I call upon Federal, State, and local officials to observe this week with appropriate activities and to search out innovative ways for government to work in partnership with the Hispanic community. Hispanic immigrants were among the earliest and are now among the most recent to arrive in this haven of liberty and human rights, and I urge all Americans to reflect on the invaluable contribution they have made to the greatness, the diversity, and the strength of this Nation.

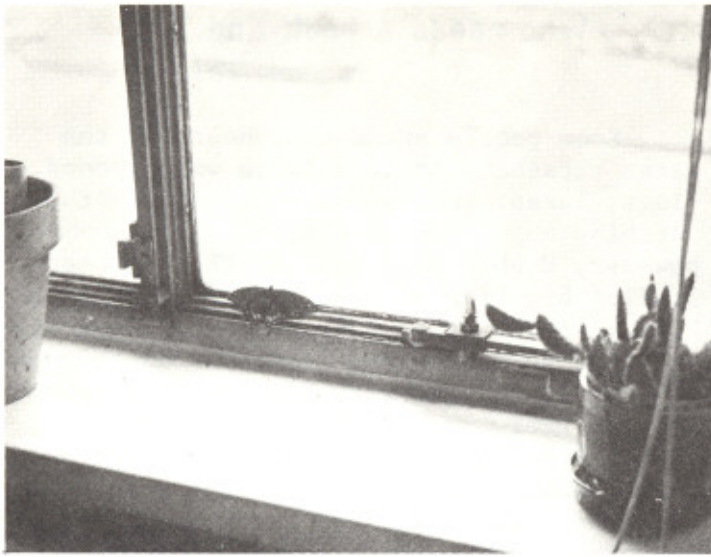
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of July, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.



From "Federal Register," Vol. 45, No. 151; Aug. 4, 1980.



AFTER 25 YEARS WORKING WITH THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS, Joan Quitter, EP-R, addressed approximately 125 persons who gathered to wish her a fond farewell at her retirement party on July 25. In addition to gifts received from individuals, Joan accepted a Sustained Superior Performance Award, thereby culminating a long and productive federal career of 35 years. During the evening's toasts, it was revealed at last that in fact, contrary to popular belief, it was Bob Calton who assisted Joan in running the Planning Branch from 1957 to 1959 and 1962 to 1967. (Photo courtesy of Bob Oganovic, EP-R.)



SPREADING ITS FRAGILE WINGS TO THE WORLD, a black swallowtail butterfly emerged from its chrysalis on Aug. 7, the birthday of Mary Rivett, DE. Mary adopted the larva from her garden several days before it spun a cocoon. Afterwards, Mary released the butterfly outside the windows of the Executive Office.



PROUDLY DISPLAYING THEIR CATCH, Advance Planning Section was able to boast of the 11 lake trout hooked in Bayfield, Wisc., on July 26. Seated is Carl Stephan; from left to right are Dave Haumersen, Greg Schroeder, Herb Nelson, Bill Spychalla, Wayne Koerner, and Herb Nelson. *(Photo courtesy of Carl Stephan.)*

Speaking is believing

by John Blackstone, ED-HF

Do you have something important to say but find it difficult to talk with your foot in your mouth?

If that's you, I would like to prescribe the known cure: Toastmasters! Toastmasters is a group of people interested in improving themselves by gently and carefully helping each other improve at public speaking.

Toastmastering may sound like an awesome way to spend a lunch hour. But after attending a few of our meetings, most people look forward to becoming involved.

Occasionally I hear the comment, "But I'm not good at public speaking! I can't join Toastmasters." This is precisely the point -- people who are adept at public speaking don't need the aid of a group like Toastmasters.

You don't have to be an absolute, total, failure in public speaking to join Toastmasters. But the worse you are, the more Toastmasters can do for you.

Plan to come down and give Toastmasters a try. It meets in the St. Paul Post Office Building, on the 6th floor, at noon, every Thursday. The Fall schedule began Sept. 4. I hope to see you at the meetings!

A runner's rumination

by Tom Raster, ED-PB

In the continuing saga of the Corps' physical fitness fetishists, your running representatives demolished record after record in the Raspberry Festival 5-mile Run held in Hopkins, Minn., on July 20. Nearly 1200 runners participated in this famous event, including ED-PB's popular plodders -- Tom Raster, John Bailen, John Henke, and Pam Burnett -- and Ed Bailen, John's brother.

Cheering crowds lining the streets of the city were electrified as these runners burned rubber in a neck-snapping start and blurred past in sock-shredding finishing sprints just minutes later. Every one of these running enthusiasts eclipsed personal bests, compiling a string of records that still remain unbroken.

Other Corps runners (including Tom McAloon, ED-H) participated, but they finished so far ahead of your intrepid reporter that they probably had showered, had a couple of beers, and had gone home by the time this reporter completed his lung-searing, body- and mind-crippling 5-mile odyssey.

Who needs a hook and line?

by Gary Palesh, ED-ER

Some people spend many hours on the water thrashing it to a froth with spoons, plugs, lures, and you-name-it baits without catching any nice-sized fish. This summer, however, Robbin Blackman, ED-ER, has been landing big fish on Deer Lake in Polk County, Wisc., without the hours of casting and trolling that so many other fishermen go through.

While fishing with his daughter in mid-June on Deer Lake, Robbin noticed a large fish struggling at the surface a short distance away. Upon investigation, Robbin found it to be a large walleye which he was able to capture by hand. The 26-inch fish apparently had been recently injured by a large muskie or by a motor prop; most likely the latter. Whatever the case, Robbin said that the fish tasted very good.

In mid-July, Robbin was again fishing on Deer Lake, this time with Mike O'Keefe, ED-ER. They noticed a largemouth bass in shallow water that didn't appear frightened by the boat and refused to take any bait offered it. Robbin was able to reach over the side of the boat and net the 15-inch fish which turned out to be blind in one eye. The largemouth was in such bad shape that it wasn't edible, so Robbin returned it to the lake to eventually become crayfish food.

Finally, Robbin and his dad were fishing in late July -- where else, but on Deer Lake. They came across a 31-3/4-inch muskie floundering on the surface. Once again, Robbin was able to pick the fish out of the water by hand. This had a severely injured jaw. Someone apparently had done a terrible job of cutting out a hook and then released the fish, thinking it would survive. Robbin says this fish will probably taste pretty good, too.

How's that for a fish story?

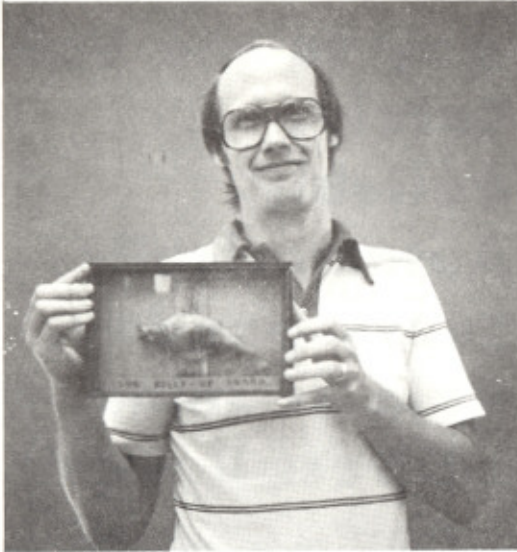
Bowling news

by Tom Heyerman, ED-D

Anyone interested in becoming a substitute bowler in the Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District league may contact Jean Turcotte, DO; Cliff Schlueter, ED-H; or Tom Heyerman. The league bowls every Thursday at 7 p.m. at the All American Lanes.

Unusual fishing award given

by Wilbur Walleye



Jim Stadelman

Corps softball season closes

The 1980 softball season has closed for the three Corps softball teams. In the final standings for the 16-team Monday Night Division of the Capitol Hills Softball League, the Corps I team finished tied for second with an 8-2 record, while Corps III tied for fourth at 7-3. Corps II finished in the middle of the pack at 3-7.

On Aug. 16-17, the league held its annual tournament featuring 29 teams from the Monday and Thursday Night Divisions. The tournament was held at the Rice and Arlington fields in St. Paul, Minn. Corps I finished fourth in the tournament winning four games before being eliminated. Corps II and Corps III had records of 1-2 and 2-2 respectively, in the tournament and did not place.

All three Corps teams can take some measure of satisfaction from the fact that they played in the stronger division this year as five of the top six finishers in the tournament were from the Monday Night Division.

Interest in softball was on an upswing this year in the St. Paul District as three teams were fielded in the league as compared to two last season and one in 1978. Also, a number of pick-up games were held between office branch teams. We hope to see this interest carry over into next season.

As part of the St. Paul District fishing contest, periodic recognition is made for unusual performance. One of the awards is a traveling "belly-up" trophy. It is awarded to anglers who try to capture fish for entry into the district fishing contest, have crossed the line of normal fisherman behavior, and have entered the realm of "believe it or not."

Jim Stadelman, ED-P, is the very first recipient of the district's "belly-up" award for unusual performance.

Jim was part of an 11-man team making an assault on the resident walleyes of Mille Lacs Lake on Aug. 7. Jim had prepared well for this test by making a complete inspection of his gear before departing for open waters.

After two hours of silence, patiently waiting for an unsuspecting walleye to investigate the nightcrawler skewered onto his line, Jim felt a slight movement of his line and saw the rod tip bend. Jim firmly set the hook and started to reel in the fish.

After several turns of his reel, to Jim's surprise, and to the other fishermen anxiously awaiting the first fish of the day, the handle came off the reel. Jim was left holding the handle in one hand and the rest of the fishing rod in the other hand.

Jim's attention was immediately averted from the fish to his reel. Frantically, Jim tried to screw the handle back onto the reel. After a few relentless moments, he decided to pull in the line by hand in an effort to bring in the struggling fish.

After all the trouble, Jim was rewarded by finally tackling a 3-1b. walleye. Although he didn't use the best technique for catching walleyes, Jim certainly did provide a most convincing performance for the "belly-up" award.

District fishing contest standings

by Wilbur Walleye

The top five fishermen as of Aug. 21 are:

1. Don Kohler, CO-RF; 77 pts.
2. Bruce Norton, CO-RF; 71 pts.
3. Tom Heyerman, ED-D; 61 pts.
4. Dave Haumersen, ED-PB; 58 pts.
5. Wayne Koerner, ED-PB; 46 pts.

The top five fishing branches are:

1. Regulatory Functions at 201 pts.
2. Planning at 168 pts.
3. Environmental Res. at 113 pts.
4. Design at 94 pts.
5. Procurement at 25 pts.



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3. All entries must be received by 1 November 1980. Enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be mailed separately.
4. Winner will be selected by a committee in the Omaha District Office of the Comptroller whose decision is final. No substitution in the prize is permitted.
5. The contest is open to any Corps of Engineers employee or Federal employee paid by the Corps of Engineers Civilian Payroll Office, Omaha, Nebraska, except employees in the Office of the Comptroller, Omaha District.
6. Taxes on prizes are the sole responsibility of contest winner. All Federal, state, and local regulations apply.
7. In case of duplicate entries, the earliest entry received will be the winner.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

ELECTRONIC IMPULSE NAME _____

ENTRANT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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ORGANIZATION _____