



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

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January 1994

District holds open house at new offices on January 14

The district will hold an open house at 1 p.m. on Friday, January 14, to celebrate its new office location. Activities will include a reception, office tours, and exhibits of its high-tech equipment.

The event begins with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the first-floor foyer of the Army Corps of Engineers Centre.

District Commander Col. James Scott will cut the ribbon inside the Fifth Street entrance on the first floor. Former District Commander Col. Richard Craig will assist. Craig, now the commander of North Central Division, supervised the district's plans for the new offices and subsequent move from the old Post Office and Customs House. The district had offices in the Post Office for 53 years.

Cookies, coffee and cider will be served during a reception on the second floor hallway after the ceremony.

Representatives of state and federal agencies, business and industry, local project sponsors and the Corps of Engineers family are invited to the open house.

The district occupies 103,000 square feet on more than four floors of the eight-story Army Corps of Engineers Centre, located in St. Paul's Lowertown area. In keeping with the building's new name, the distinctive red flag with the white castle of the Corps of Engineers now flies above the Fifth Street entrance.

The recently renovated building consolidates 450 headquarters employees into one building, offers accessibility for the handicapped and improves working conditions for employees.

Building tours will be held concurrently with the reception. Tour guides will be stationed at the elevators to escort groups to activities on each floor. Tour guides from each organization (with the exception of smaller offices) will be available to answer more detailed questions upon a group's arrival.



Photo by Ken Gardner

The district occupies 103,000 square feet on more than four floors of the eight-story Army Corps of Engineers Centre, located in St. Paul's Lowertown area. The above photo was taken from Mears Park in downtown St. Paul.

Tours will include demonstrations of such high-tech areas as the computer room, the library with its CD-ROM (Compact Disk-Read Only Memory), computer-aided drafting and design (CADD) and GIS (Geographic Information Systems). Specialists in each area will be available for presentations.

The St. Paul schools, Society of Women Engineers, Boy Scouts and the St. Paul Technical Institute are among those expected to tour the new facility.

Honors and Awards

Suggester of the Year

David R. Koepsell

Evaluator of the Year

Russell L. Williams

Implementer of the Year

Dennis L. Erickson

On-the-Spot Awards

Office of Counsel

Karin A. Greeman

Contracting Division

Delores A. Aldinger
David Garrison
Cathrine M. Greguson
Dawn M. Linder
Denise M. McCarthy

Construction-Operations Division

Construction Branch

Stephanie T. Dupuy
Maintenance Section
Carl G. Brommerich
Robert F. Haney
Curtis W. Marquardt
Anton J.E. Stack
Navigation Branch
Michael Ott
Loretta R. Ryan

Engineering Division

Cost Engineering Branch

Mark Paulus

Design Branch

Terry L. Williams

Geotech Hydr & Hydro Branch

Mark S. Meyers

Management Branch

John J. Bailen
Robert A. Dempsey
Myrna Y. Jinks
Lynn M. Stebe (two awards)

Information Management Office

John F. Welch

Planning Division

Terry J. Birkenstock
Keith R. LeClaire

Special Act Awards

Construction-Operations Division

Eastern Area Office

Nathan M. Kathir

Administration Branch

Dale M. Brintnall

Emergency Management

David J. DePoint

Natural Resource Management

Kevin F. Berg

Steven D. Odegaard

Timm V. Rennecke

Franklin E. Star

Navigation Branch

Arden L. Duval

Patrick G. Duval

Daniel J. Kumlin

Joseph A. Lechner

Frederick F. Maule

Michael J. Myhre

Regulatory Branch

Verlin E. Reiter

Contracting Division

Joanne M. Dufeck

Engineering Division

David C. Loss

Cost Engineering Branch

Allen L. Geisen

Design Branch

Peter P. Casillas

Craig O. Evans

David A. Himmerich

James B. Mosner

Gregory Porychy

Thomas Novak

Lynn A. Riggs

Leslie A. Rzeszut

Lorilee K. Taylor

Geotech Hydr & Hydro Branch

Mary F. Chang

Joel J. Face

Dennis D. Holme

Scott A. Jutila

Bonnie J. Montgomery

Richard T. Pomerleau

James D. Sentz

Terry R. Zien

Management Branch

Edmond C. Williamson III

Equal Employment Opportunity Office

Joann M. Meier

Human Resources

Clare E. Friedmann

Mary F. Hendrickson

Information Management Office

Richard W. Gorr

Ivy D. Kaminsky

Linda M. Steele

John F. Welch

Information Branch

Jeffry D. Bailey

Nicholas Carter

Jerome P. Drexler

Kevin E. Ford

Timothy J. Hobson

Jon R. Lyman

Charles H. Sedgwick

Georgia I. Stanonik

Jean S. Turcotte

Support Branch

Daniel J. Bomstad

Charles R. Cloutier

Theresa L. Demby

William D. Hutchinson

John R. Johnson

Scott J. Landgreen

Bernard A.G. Pedersen

Susan L. Quinn

Larry C. Stephens

Logistics Management

Olivia L. Vavreck

Planning Division

David E. Berwick

Terry J. Engel

Resource Management Office

Debra J. Bertrand

Real Estate Division

William S. Vennemann

Resource Management

Mary J. Clarkson

James D. Gilbert

Jeanette I. Shafer

Diana L. Tschida

Safety Office

Ronald E. Scott

St. Paul District plugs into expanded computer network

By Peter Verstegen
Public Affairs specialist

An expanded computer network awaited district office employees when they moved into their new offices late last October. The network offers users reliability, speed, new applications, and provides a gateway to systems outside the district.

Six file servers in the Information Management (IM) computer room and 24 file servers scattered through Engineering Division (ED) make up the network. The network links over 500 users.

Distributed computing, a collection of decentralized servers, gives users speed and reliability. "Each client, or person, has a personal computer for single tasks and file storage. Their computer is networked to a file server, which is a souped up, multi-task, multi-use computer," said Lynn Riggs, an engineer in Design Branch. Riggs contributed substantially to the installation of the network in ED.

One of the district's electronic mail applications, "CC Mail," gives users a method to exchange e-mail (electronic mail) and files within the North Central Division. Internet, an international data communications highway originated by the Defense Department, gives users access to the world. "We are capable of sharing files with other agencies and universities throughout the world," said John Welch, the district's network administrator. "We exchange files with Waterways Experiment Station (in Vicksburg, Mississippi) every day."

Distributed computing makes the system faster and more reliable than mainframe computing. Over the past

One of the district's electronic mail applications, "CC Mail," gives users a method to exchange e-mail (electronic mail) and files within the North Central Division.

10 years, computing has shifted from mainframe-based central processing to servers linked by bridges and routers. The client-server arrangement spreads out the computing power over 30 small, high-powered computers.

In the old days, everyone was connected to a central mainframe, like spokes that converge on a central hub of a bicycle wheel. When the mainframe was down or crashed, the whole system halted. Mainframes also slowed to a crawl at times of peak usage.

The powerful file servers distribute the computing load over a number of interconnected computers, giving users faster and more reliable computing. The bridges link the servers and the routers guide data traffic by reading addresses on electronic envelopes, similar to putting a paper message in an envelope and addressing and mailing it. The post office — in this case the server — then moves a message to its destination.

Novell-based servers provide computing for business applications. Business applications on the Novell network include accounting, forms, word processing, data bases, and spreadsheets. "Novell users can direct their print jobs to any of the network printers," said Welch.

The Unix servers in ED offer power for technical and engineering applications. (Unix is a computer operating system widely used in engineering and scientific communities.) Primary

engineering applications on a Unix-based servers are computer-aided drafting and computer-aided design.

New technology will soon allow the exchange of information among different mail systems and eliminate the need for Corps Mail as a separate e-mail program. "An X400 mail gateway is being installed at North Central Division. The X400 will allow Corps Mail to flow to CC Mail and CC Mail to flow to Corps Mail," said Welch.

The network also meets technical standards now that will be required for applications that will be on-line in 1995. The move to the new building presented the district an opportunity to install fiber-optic cable for future Corps-wide computer applications for Real Estate, Project Management, and Resource Management.

In addition to a new style bulletin board, users sitting at their desks now have access to local network applications, including WordPerfect and various CD-ROM (Compact Disk-Read Only Memory) applications. Applications such as Computer Select (on-line help), hydrologic and climate data, phone books, and the Congressional Federal Staff Directory will also be on-line.

1993 reviewed

By Pam Spann
Stay-in-School Program

The Corps of Engineers is constantly looking forward. For a while, why not revisit the past year to review what you've been through.

JANUARY

Army Corps of Engineers reorganization plan, unveiled the previous November, receives continued scrutiny in the media and Congress.

On January 21, District Commander Col. Richard Craig recognizes the members of the Parental Leave Task Force for their work in developing the district's new Parental Leave Policy.

Photographs of Henry A. Bosse, a 19th Century "draughtsman," are featured at an exhibit at the Landmark Center in St. Paul. The exhibit is entitled "Mississippi River Exhibit."

Bald eagle numbers increase at the lock and dams in the St. Paul District. Reported sightings number 624.

FEBRUARY

Historian John Anfinson and Fisheries Biologist Dennis Anderson participate in a workshop titled "The Ever Changing Mississippi." Anfinson presented the keynote address titled "10,000 years on the Mississippi." Anderson participated in a panel discussion titled, "Mississippi River Water Quality — Are We Really Making Progress?"

Contractors install new lock operating machinery over the winter at Lock and Dam No. 9 at Eastman, Wisconsin.

The Corps-wide reorganization, is put on temporary hold for review by newly-appointed Secretary of Defense Les Aspin.

MARCH

The district's St. Paul Project enhances the downtown St. Paul river front. The Corps worked closely with the city to incorporate recreation features into the flood wall and walkway that would allow the public to bike, walk or jog along river front. The walkway is handicap accessible.

Bruce Carlson, an economist in Planning Division, presents results of a long-term recreation study of the Upper Mississippi River to the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee in Galena, Illinois.

APRIL

The district wins the Equal Employment Opportunity Trophy Award in the North Central Division for the sixth consecutive year.

Arne Thomsen, the resident engineer in La Crosse, Wisconsin, receives the Hard Hat of the Year Award.

The district tackles spring flooding in the Red River Valley. The floods foreshadow record summer flooding along the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers.

MAY

Ben Wopat, chief of Regulatory, participates in a panel discussion about the regulation of wetlands at the Wisconsin Wetlands Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Blackhawk Park rangers begin presenting programs on water safety at schools in La Crosse, Prairie Du Chien, Bagley and Lynxville, Wisconsin and Lansing, Iowa.

Al Geisen, Jan Pream and Arne Thomsen earn Civil Servant of the Year Awards.

Federal Women's Program announces new appointees: Cathy Greguson from Contracting; Doris Sullivan from Engineering and Angie Peterson from Planning.

The Engineers Society of St. Paul elects Jim Muegge of Engineering Division as president.

Curt Meeder, chief of Economic Social Recreation Branch, receives the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for work on the International Joint Commission Water Level Study.

The St. Paul District participates in the Mississippi River Project, a water quality project to increase public awareness about water quality and the relationship between the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico.

JUNE

Two from the district receive professional recognition: District Commander Col. Richard Craig is honored with an Appreciation Award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers and Mark Meyers is recognized as Young Engineer of the Year by the Society of American Military Engineers.

Rain and high water delay the district's Awards Picnic. Water begins to creep over the banks of the Mississippi River and into Blackhawk Park.

The summer flood of record, the Flood of '93, begins to build in the St. Paul District. Torrential rains soak the St. Croix River basin along the Minnesota-Wisconsin border, and saturate the Minnesota River basin. The district obligates over \$205,000 and assigns 171 people to work emergency flood duty. The Mississippi River crests June 26 at 19.2 feet at St. Paul, establishing the summer flood record.

JULY

Record high waters on the Mississippi force the Dredge Thompson, on its way to St. Paul, to tie up across from Hannibal, Mo. The crew supports the flood fight in the Hannibal-Quincy area.

Scenes from the movie, *Mighty Ducks II*, are filmed at Upper St. Anthony Falls.

AUGUST

Lt. General Arthur E. Williams, the Army's 48th Chief of Engineers, returns to St. Paul to officiate the change of command. Col. James T. Scott assumes command from Col. Richard W. Craig, who is reassigned to command North Central Division.

District sets up booth at Rondo Days, a community celebration of St. Paul's African-American Cultural history.

Barges loaded with soybeans hit Lock and Dam No. 3 on the Mississippi River. The barges damage one of the roller gates at the dam. One of the three barges sink in front of the dam. River currents flush two other barges through the gates. Using underwater pumps and compressed air, a salvage crew successfully raises the sunken barge.



SEPTEMBER

Retirees gather for the 18th annual reunion. District Commander James T. Scott honors Vern Gunderson, retired captain of the Dredge William Thompson, as the 33rd member of the Hall of Fame.

District office staff begin move into Army Engineer Centre, located one block north of the Post Office at 190 Fifth Street East.

Pool 8 Island Project on the Mississippi River withstands the Flood of '93.

Partnership Minnesota recognizes district contributions to River Resources Forum.

District receives the Working Parent Support Award.

OCTOBER

For the second time in three years, Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson officially commends the district for hiring and promoting people with disabilities.

The St. Paul District finishes its move to the new Army Corps of Engineers Centre.

The district represents Corps Headquarters at national Girl Scouts Convention held in Minneapolis.

Combined Federal Campaign kicks off its annual campaign.

Team inspects Locks and Dams 6,7 to guard against any deficiencies.

Record high waters on the Mississippi River forced the Dredge Thompson to tie up across from Hannibal, Missouri when flooding occurred in July. Tom Fisher (left) from the dredge is pictured near Hannibal with a temporary river gauge in the background. Fisher and other crew members provided emergency hourly river stage readings of the Mississippi River. In addition, crew members Jay Arnold, Gerald Fielder and Gene Nesler operated bulldozers to fortify levees.

NOVEMBER

User fees okayed for Corps recreation areas.

Lock and Dam No. 2 in Hastings, Minnesota, closes for construction of a new control building and a complete re-wiring of the facility.

The Third Avenue Bridge in Rochester, Minnesota (part of stage 2a the district's Rochester Project) is complete.

Dave Berwick appointed to Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board.

Annals of Iowa publishes Historian John Anfinson's article "Commerce and Conservation on the Upper Mississippi River."

Santa Anonymous kicks off its 45th year. Dave Berwick heads the campaign for the district.

DECEMBER

Some 290 people, including employees and retirees, attend the district Holiday Awards Ceremony at the Southview County Club.

Lock and Dam No. 6 at Trempealeau, Wisconsin, is de-watered for major repairs. The installation of new lock machinery begins at Lock and Dam No. 7, La Crescent, Minnesota.

The President withdraws the Corps of Engineers Reorganization Plan. He directs the Secretary of Defense to develop a new plan.

The day Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Information Service

Sometimes, the simplest act changes the world.

Such was the case in Montgomery, Ala., on Dec. 1, 1955. Rosa Parks, tired after a day's work, refused to give up her seat on a city bus to a white man. At that time and place, it was customary for blacks to give up their seats to whites.

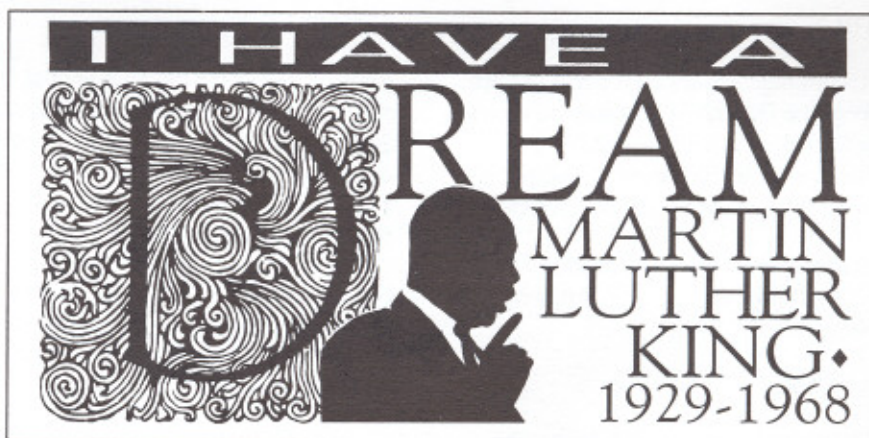
Maybe Parks, a seamstress, was just tired, maybe she was finally fed up with the inequity of it. For whatever reason, her simple act of defiance changed the United States forever.

Her act of civil disobedience also catapulted a young African-American preacher to international fame.

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, celebrated this year Jan. 17, it is important to remember the event.

Montgomery bills itself as the "First Capitol of the Confederacy." Confederate President Jefferson Davis took the oath of office on the balcony of the Alabama statehouse. In 1955, like most of the South, Montgomery was legally segregated. Into this city came 26-year-old Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to become pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

The theories of Mahatma Gandhi — espousing victory over one's enemies through love — fascinated King. Like Confederate President Jefferson Davis in 1861, with King's arrival "the man



Student project on racism recognized in national publishing competition

By Pam Spann
Stay-in-School Program

A story about an African-American family's struggle with racism, written by a St. Paul District Stay-in-School student, placed among the top 100 in a nationwide student competition.

The story, "Hey You, Nigger!", by Pam Spann, was entered in 1993 by her high school English teacher in "The Written and Illustrated by....Awards" competition for young people from ages 6-19.

The book recently earned an Award for Achievement, presented by the president of Landmark Editions, Inc., the sponsor of the competition.

Every year English teachers and librarians from across the United States are encouraged to have their students write and illustrate a story using their individual creative talents.

The book takes a look inside the battle against prejudice through the eyes of a young brother and sister

growing up in rural Mississippi during the early seventies. They find that there isn't a great difference between themselves and other races.

The story that unfolds shows what happened when Lorreta and Bobby (the main characters) began to understand that prejudice was something that couldn't always be changed. They didn't learn acceptance of racism, however. They learned determination. They stopped viewing the color of their skin as a barrier to what they could accomplish. The person on the outside could not define who a person was on the inside.

The story was chosen from more than 7,500 entries which were selected from more than 250,000 students' original books by teachers and librarians nationwide.

Although the book did not win first prize, the contest and recognition served as encouragement for an aspiring writer.

Spann is now in her first year at Lakewood Community College.

"Bus seat," continued on page 7

"Bus seat," continued from page 6

and the hour have met."

Police arrested Rosa Parks at the next stop on the bus line for disobeying a bus driver. Authorities found her guilty and fined her \$14. But Parks was popular, and her many friends organized a one-day boycott of the transit company.

It was spectacularly successful. Leaders in the community noted that blacks made up 75 percent of the ridership. What would happen if they extended the boycott? Management would have to yield to their demands or go bankrupt.

Black community leaders organized the Montgomery Improvement Association to handle matters related to the boycott. They elected King president of the organization.

From the first, King portrayed the struggle as more than a conflict between blacks and whites. "This is only a conflict between justice and injustice," he told his congregation. "We are not just trying to improve Negro Montgomery. We are trying to improve the whole of Montgomery. If we are arrested every day; if we are exploited every day; if we are triumphed over every day; let nobody pull you so low as to hate them."

The African-Americans of Montgomery listened and stayed away from the bus line. Many walked or rode bicycles or

took advantage of the car pools organized by King and his supporters. Many white families in the city helped with rides or taxi fares.

In February 1956, the authorities arrested King and 114 other black leaders for restraint of trade. They convicted him and ordered him to pay a \$1,000 fine and court costs.

The sentencing only made the African-Americans of Montgomery more determined. The boycott continued through the spring, summer and fall. With each passing month, interest in the boycott grew, first in Montgomery, then throughout the United States, then around the world. The bus company sank into debt.

Authorities arrested King and his supporters for setting up the car pools. Officials maintained the car pools were an unlicensed business. They were on trial when word arrived from Washington that the Supreme Court

ruled discrimination in public transportation was illegal. Officials freed King and his associates.

Through it all, King stuck fast to his belief in non-violence. Even when opponents bombed his home, King cautioned against revenge.

Dec. 21, 1956, was the first integrated day in the transit company's history.

King urged Montgomery's African-Americans to return to the buses with dignity. "I would be terribly disappointed if any of you were to go back to the buses bragging, 'We, the Negroes, won a victory over the white people,'" he said. "If you do, our struggle will be lost all over the South. Go back with humility and meekness."

King was one of the first African-Americans to ride the integrated bus line. He paid his 15 cents, took the trip and announced, "It was a great ride."

Holidays bring out the giving spirit



District employees worked through Santa Anonymous, Neighbors, Inc. and the Salvation Army to help the less fortunate over the holiday season. The agencies distributed gifts to needy families in the Twin Cities area. At left, Mary Muraski, a appraiser in Real Estate, stopped by to put a gift under the tree for Santa Anonymous. Human Resources acted as the lead for Neighbors, Inc. and Construction-Operations contributed through the Salvation Army.

Editor's notes:

The birthday of the late Martin Luther King Jr. is celebrated as a federal holiday on the third Monday in January.

The district will celebrate Diversity Appreciation Week February 14-18 with the theme of "Learning from Your Past to Discover Your Future."

Bits and Pieces

Retirees reunite at Holiday Awards Ceremony



Photos by Georgia Stanonik

A dozen retirees gathered for a reunion photo at the awards banquet at the Southview Country Club on December 17. Standing with the retirees at left is St. Paul District Commander Col. James T. Scott. From left, retirees are LaVane Dempsey, Bill Goetz, Art Ettl, Chester Pedersen, Irving Kendall, Mary Rivett, Steve Tysowski, Art Pera, Joan Quitter, Jim Johnson, Ken Harrell and Harry Novak.



Chris Schmitz, a civil engineer with Engineering Division, and her 20-month-old son, Tony, made the Holiday Awards Ceremony a family affair. This was Tony's first awards banquet.

Holiday Awards Ceremony is a family affair



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