



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Los Angeles District

# NEWSCASTLE

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*LAD 'one of the worst'*

## No time for timekeeping

by Vanessa Opanubi  
and Larry Hawthorne

During the usual banter at the December '86 Executive Management Conference in Claremont, Calif., an offhand remark was made that the job of timekeeper in the Los Angeles District does not seem to hold the highest of priorities. Stoney silence let the comment stand that time. Unofficial opinion outside the District — from those who compile District timekeeping data — adds more vocal support to the contention that an important administrative function may not be getting the attention it deserves in Los Angeles.

"The Los Angeles District is one of the worst districts in timekeeping duties." That's the unofficial but informed opinion of Cliff Gaines, who speaks from more than a year's experience in handling LAD payroll matters in Omaha. Gaines contends that the

problem in Los Angeles is "insufficiently trained timekeepers."

Gaines, a payroll clerk who only a month ago took over New York District payroll matters after asking to be removed from the LAD account, said Omaha attempted unsuccessfully to train District timekeepers in the fall of 1985. A 3-person training team spent a week in the District, with only marginal results.

"Nobody went to the training classes. Also, there were disruptions that prevented some timekeepers from being trained," he said.

Bobbi Hearn, training specialist, said she never received negative comments on the 1985 training course. "As far as I'm concerned, it went well," she said.

Wayland Moore, chief of training branch, said training for timekeepers suffers from universal lack of interest. "I sent out a DF Feb. 13 about another

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## Personnel Office move complete by April 5

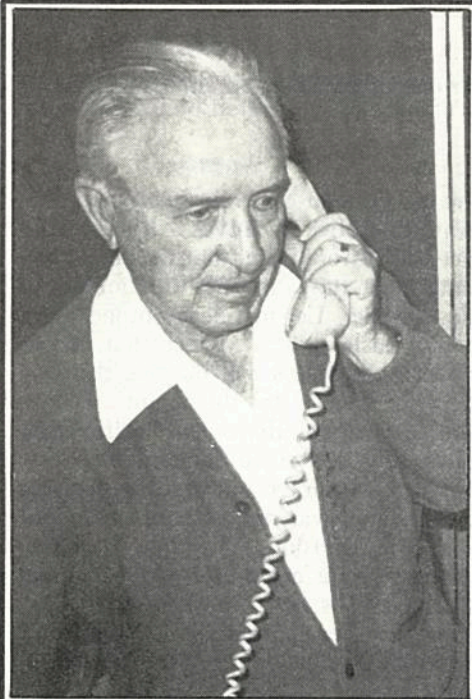
by Larry Hawthorne

Transition from a Los Angeles District personnel office to a consolidated office under South Pacific Division will be operationally complete by April 5.

Representatives of the consolidated division personnel office (CDPO), located in Sacramento District, briefed LAD managers Feb. 19 on the timetable for making the changeover. They said a 6-to-8-member liaison personnel office will remain in LADO to handle day-to-day routine personnel matters. However, the bulk of District personnel actions will be executed by the CDPO, which already provides personnel support for SPD, San Francisco, and Sacramento Districts.

Paul McGoye, deputy personnel officer, said the CDPO will send three separate 3-member teams to LAD during the last week of February and first two weeks of March. The "assessment visits" will be used

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### Dredging . . .

The L.A. District has five on-going dredge operations, and as the Ventura Harbor and the Hueneme Channel Islands Harbor progress with their respective sand removal, project managers Mike Ellis (Ventura) and Jane Fulton (Channel Islands) keep in close touch with Jim Page (far left), the District's North Coast Project Office engineer. (See story below and more photos in Centerfold.)

### . . . Operations

Photos by Ely U. Orias

## Muckrakers are busy in Ventura County

by Ely U. Orias  
Newcastle Editor

VENTURA COUNTY — Constituents of Port Hueneme and Ventura, two contiguous coastal cities six miles apart, have been witnessing a "classic" case of muckraking since mid-December when "Headway" and "Ollie" entered Ventura Harbor and Hueneme's Channel Islands Harbor, respectively.

Ollie and Headway are no political animals; they are hydraulic or suction dredges whose harbor presence in these parts casts "political" shadows only because they were brought in (and are being sustained) with federal funds for the duration of their contracts with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Dredging of both harbors must be completed by March 15 due to recreational and environmental con-

siderations.

Both dredgers are capable of scooping up and spitting out solids up to 20% concentration. Other types of suction dredges have been developed but most — like the Ollie and the Headway — use the centrifugal pump method.

The \$3.6 million contract obligates Ollie, a dredger from Portland-based Riedel International, to suck up approximately 3 million cubic yards of sand trapped behind the Channel Islands offshore breakwater. Ollie's centrifugal pumps then transport the sand through 80-foot section pipes connected together and laid out across Silver Strand to a discharge area south of the Port Hueneme Pier, a distance of approximately three miles.

Channel Islands, which is principally a small-craft harbor, is dredged twice a year. Its offshore breakwater is actually a sand trap designed to in-

tercept littoral draft (sand material) from a downcoast to upcoast movement.

The Headway, a dredger owned by Dutra of Northern California and under contract for \$876,000, must clear the Ventura Harbor channel of approximately 900,000 cubic yards of sand to make it safe for small boats entering and leaving the man-made harbor intended for commercial and recreational purposes. Ventura Harbor, with sand dumped in large quantities on the harbor floor by ocean waves, is dredged once a year.

Channel Islands Harbor has berths for 600 small craft while Ventura Harbor is equipped with 1,800 slips for small boats.

Besides Ventura and Hueneme, the North Coast Project Office monitors dredging operations at Morro Bay by San Luis Obispo, on a \$1.7 million contract;

(To Centerfold)



# Perspective

## The Word . . . by Col. Fred Butler

## Impressed with field teamwork

Over the past four weeks I've had an opportunity to visit various Resident/Area Offices with BG Kelly and to observe our field folks in action. You cannot help but be tremendously impressed with the professionalism and dedication and strong desire to serve our customers.

During our visit to the Maricopa County Resident Office, we observed that Neil Erwin and his crew are doing an outstanding job on the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel. The sense of teamwork is evident in everything that they do. And the fact that I was able to present an outstanding contractor's award during my visit is proof enough that they consider the contractors working on that large civil works project important members of the team.

During our visit to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, I saw that you cannot help but be impressed by the enthusiasm displayed by John Keever, the resident engineer there. John is an important member of the "Engineer Family" and works closely with Col. Joe Sugg, the base civil engineer. He is also considered an important team member of General Lester P. Brown's staff, and he routinely advises him of the status of construction there.

Moving over to Luke Air Force Base, Terry Buckley has done an extraordinary job of interacting with General William McCoy and Lt. Col. Paul Haines, the base civil engineer, in solving problems and providing quality construction. The dedication of Terry and his staff has certainly been above and beyond what you would normally expect. The fact that Terry is called by his first name by Gen. McCoy, the commander there, is indicative of the respect and esteem the installation holds him in.

Another bright spot in the District is the job that Spence Pickens is doing on the Oceanside Sand Bypass System. I was so impressed with his accomplishments and thorough grasp of that project that I presented Spence with a \$250 spot cash award.

Many other outstanding professionals in the field are taking care of our customers and ensuring that the work of our contractors is done the way that it should



be. Certainly from my perspective we have the most outstanding folks in the field of any other district.

I salute each of you for your dedication and professionalism.

### By popular demand

Col. Fred Butler, District commander, read a poem during his State-of-the-District report to LAD employees on Jan. 12.

The *Newcastle* has received a few requests from readers to run the Edgar A. Guest-authored poem.

The poem follows:  
Somebody said it couldn't be done  
But he with a chuckle replied  
That maybe it couldn't but he'd  
be one who wouldn't say so till he tried.  
So he waded right in with a  
trace of a grin and if he worried he hid it.  
And started to sing as he tackled  
the thing that couldn't be done and he did it.

## The View from Here . . . by Larry Hawthorne

## A big exchange of moccasins in Portland

Every now and then I get the feeling that staff camaraderie could be improved in the Los Angeles District. Professional rivalries and turf battles sometimes threaten to erupt into full-scale internecine warfare. Folks in Planning, for example, won't talk to those in Con-Ops or Engineering or vice versa. It's not a good working atmosphere at times. Staff offices aren't immune either. They can plead guilty to occasional petty bickering and Copernicus thinking that has their particular organization at the center of the District universe.

Nobody really likes to talk about it, but it's a problem. One that has gotten worse in recent years.

That said, I could hardly believe my eyes when I picked up a recent issue of Portland District's newspaper, the *Corps'pendent*. The front-page story reported a decision by Portland District Commander Col. Gary Lord to begin a rotational cross-training program this month that has his key division chiefs trade places for a year.

What? You heard me right. The chief of Construction Division will exchange chairs with the chief of Engineering Division. Chiefs of Operations Division and Planning Division will also make the switch. Is that radical or what! It's all part of the "Model District" program whereby managers are given a green light to try out new and innovative techniques.

My first thought was that these four guys must be dragged kicking and screaming from one side of the hall to the other. Calling the move a "positive action for the District," Lord concedes that the four managers "may not all be totally enthusiastic about the rotational assignment." Nevertheless, if you can believe what they say, they've at least accepted the idea and a few seem almost excited about the prospects.

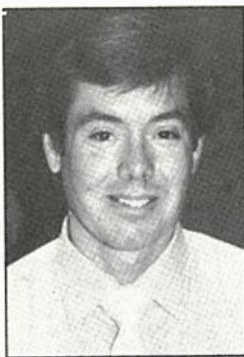
A chance to gain some "worthwhile construction experience," allows the Engineering-soon-to-become-Con-Ops-Division chief. "A rare opportunity," says the current Con-Ops chief. Looking forward to an "interesting year" is the chief of Operations who will soon head Planning Division. His replacement, a.k.a. Planning Div. chief, is "enthusiastic and eager for the opportunity and experience."

The advantages of such an exchange of management talent are obvious. And, as is so often the case, the decision to experiment borders on genius. Could any manager remain a staunch critic of a "rival" organization after working with the people, and sharing their hopes, frustrations, a few fears and a couple of victories? I think not.

Talk about making life interesting! Like that old chemlab experiment, match the same ingredients differently and the reactions change. A little new chemistry could be a very positive thing, even at the risk of the whole thing boiling over onto the floor.

You have to wonder what makes the Portland District so different from the Los Angeles office that such a trade of moccasins could work there and not here. Maybe there isn't a dime's worth of difference.

"Ten years hence, somebody should be able to pick up the *Newcastle* and find out what happened."



I'd like to hear one of our division chief's comments on a plan like that. Any takers?

★★★

A story in the last issue of the *Newcastle* had people marching into my office in droves. All were from Personnel Office; most were upset that we ran a story on the decision to move the personnel function out of the Los Angeles District. Let me clear up one thing right away. It was misleading. . . check that, it was wrong to say personnel duties will be picked up by Sacramento District. More to the point, a consolidated Personnel Office under South Pacific Division will be physically located in Sacramento.

And it should also be pointed out that the decision to consolidate Personnel was not without precedent in the South Pacific Division. The San Francisco District had already transferred its own personnel function. Los Angeles District followed suit.

As to the tenor of other complaints: "Why didn't the *Newcastle* just leave us alone? Why rub salt in our wound?"

I understand and expected that reaction, in light of what is potentially a very emotional situation. After all, we're talking about people's jobs here. But to have ignored an event that represents one of the major administrative changes in the District in the last decade would have been a mistake.

One thing the *Newcastle* has tried to do since its revitalization about two years ago is not only to inform but to serve as a newspaper of record. Ten years hence, somebody — anybody — should be able to pick up back copies of the *Newcastle* and find out what happened. If it's news, if it impacts on a sizeable segment of the workforce, it should be reported. It was important that we mention it — for the record.



### The Newcastle

Commander ..... Col. Fred Butler  
Public Affairs Officer ..... Larry E. Hawthorne  
Editor ..... Ely U. Orias

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Timekeeping problems continue in L.A. . . .

(From Page 1)

timekeeping course, trying to drum up interest. So far (Feb. 24) I've had no responses."

Gaines said that a common LAD timekeeper mistake he has encountered is a failure to check whether a person has any remaining accumulated leave before logging it on the time card.

"The cards come in with annual leave, the computer sees that there isn't any and it automatically kicks it back."

"Negative hours" as they're known when annual leave reverts to leave without pay is a continuing problem in the Los Angeles District. Gaines said he has handled time for at least six other districts or divisions. "By far, my own experience tells me that Los Angeles is the worst."

Another problem occurs when timekeepers fail to add up all the totals. It delays time cards and increases the chances of pay checks arriving late.

So far that hasn't happened, but not without Gaines having had to pay for a few LAD timekeeping sins. Overtime he spent cleaning up District time cards was one of the reasons he asked for and was granted relief from LAD payroll duties in February. "It would sometimes take 2 - 3 days to balance LAD's time. By comparison, I just balanced New England Division's time in just 2½ hours."

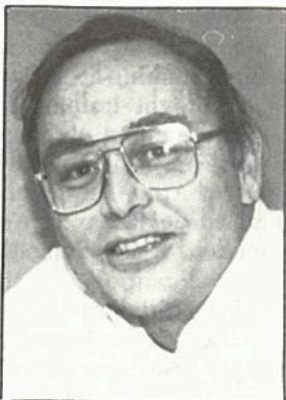
He said he encountered other problems when he took over the LAD payroll account in November 1985. Personnel pay adjustments were chronically late, some pending promotions or step increases were three years behind because the proper SF-50 had not been provided. But Gaines laid most of LAD's timekeeping troubles at the feet of training, or lack of it.

"You've got to have timekeepers who care about what they're doing and know how to do it. And the supervisor has to be the one to take an active role in that."

Typical timekeeper duties include complete and accurate record of employee attendance and time worked within a given pay period and having a responsible alternate. These duties and others are



Smith



Kane



Lake

*District timekeepers and managers are unanimous in their belief that more training can help solve LAD's chronic timekeeping problems.*

Photos by Vanessa Opanubi

listed in the timekeepers' manual that is available to all personnel.

The timekeeper, however, is not to be held responsible for the time and attendance of more than 50 employees or the distribution of checks and bonds to employees.

Preston Lake, Finance & Accounting payroll liaison, has confirmed reports that there has not been enough training for timekeepers and neither has there been much support from the supervisors as far

as designating competent timekeepers.

Many District timekeepers, on the other hand, feel that "timekeeping is more than a burden than a responsibility."

Beverly Smith, Resource Management Office secretary and timekeeper, sees the timekeeper's job as being devoid of importance at least in the eyes of those who rapidly miss timecard or labor distribution deadlines. More often than not, Smith observes, supervisors are unaware that labor distribution and timecards are due.

Bob Kane, fiscal policy officer, said timekeepers must be designated by supervisors and alternates named by them. Kane added that in the absence of timekeepers, timekeeping responsibilities should rest with supervisors and not with secretaries.

"The job of the timekeeper does not have to be the job of the clerk-typist or secretary," Kane said. "Any responsible employee who can be trusted in recording accurate time and attendance is okay. Student aides do not fall under the category of an employee who can be made responsible for timekeeping duties."

Meanwhile, the L.A. District has plans to implement a new system that should alleviate some of its timekeeping difficulties. One such plan is the implementation of CETALS (Corps of Engineers Time and Leave System), which will combine the duties of time and attendance with labor distribution function.

Officials hope that CETAL will put the job of timekeeper back on the District's list of priorities and important undertakings.

Vanessa Opanubi, the former Vanessa Thompson, is Public Affairs Office secretary and timekeeper for several offices.



US Army Corps of Engineers  
Los Angeles District

### Leaders in Customer Care



Photo by Charles Frank

Deloach Beaver, realty reports clerk, Planning & Control Branch.

A key employee in the operation of the Real Estate Division, Deloach coordinates between the office of the Chief of Engineering and LAD's Management Disposal Branch. Her ability to resolve problems quickly and pleasantly, as well as her long-term dedication to her job, have helped make Deloach Beaver a leader in customer care.

Chuck Holt, Chief of Regulatory Branch.

In balancing the needs of the general public, environmental groups and local governments, Charles "Chuck" Holt guides his staff in the delicate process of deciding permit applications for construction activity within coastal and inland waters. His level approach and a sense of humor are just two of the qualities which make his a customer care leader.



Photo by Charles Frank

IN DOLLARS

FEDERAL PAY SCALES FOR WHITE COLLAR EMPLOYEES

The new amount appearing on the federal employee's paycheck is the result of the 1987 3% pay raise that's reflected in the pay scales below.

A 1.3% cost of living increase for military and civilian retirees was also authorized.

GS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	9,619	9,940	10,260	10,579	10,899	11,087	11,403	11,721	11,735	12,036
2	10,816	11,073	11,430	11,735	11,866	12,215	12,564	12,913	13,262	13,611
3	11,802	12,195	12,588	12,981	13,374	13,767	14,160	14,553	14,946	15,339
4	13,248	13,690	14,132	14,574	15,016	15,458	15,900	16,342	16,784	17,226
5	14,822	15,316	15,810	16,304	16,798	17,292	17,786	18,280	18,744	19,268
6	16,521	17,072	17,623	18,174	18,725	19,276	19,827	20,378	20,929	21,480
7	18,358	18,970	19,582	20,194	20,806	21,418	22,030	22,642	23,254	23,866
8	20,333	21,011	21,689	22,367	23,045	23,723	24,401	25,079	25,757	26,435
9	22,458	23,207	23,956	24,705	25,454	26,203	26,952	27,701	28,450	29,199
10	24,732	25,556	26,380	27,204	28,028	28,852	29,676	30,500	31,324	32,148
11	27,172	28,078	28,984	29,890	30,796	31,702	32,608	33,514	34,420	35,326
12	32,567	33,653	34,739	35,825	36,911	37,997	39,083	40,169	41,255	42,341
13	38,727	40,018	41,309	42,600	43,891	45,182	46,473	47,764	49,055	50,346
14	45,763	47,288	48,813	50,338	51,863	53,388	54,913	56,438	57,963	59,488
15	53,830	55,624	57,418	59,212	61,006	62,800	64,594	66,388	68,182	69,976
16	63,135	65,240	67,345	69,450	71,555*	73,660*	75,765*	77,870*	79,975*	
17	73,958*	76,423*	78,888*	81,353*	83,818*					
18	86,682*									

\* The rate of basic pay payable to employees at these rates is limited to the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule, which would be \$70,800. SOURCE: Office of Personnel Management



# Norm Arno, Eng. chief, to pilot new course in retirement

by Ely U. Orias

When Norm Arno, the chief of L.A. District's Engineering Division, retires on April 4, he closes out a 35-year federal service — two years as an Air Force cadet and 33 years as a government engineer.

His departure will be auspiciously marked at a retirement luncheon on March 30 at Burbank's Castaway Restaurant.

Asked about his retirement plans, Arno said: "I'm not really retiring, just leaving federal service to continue in engineering." He will establish his own consulting firm in water resources engineering in Los Angeles and in Seattle.

A native of South Dakota, Arno said he left for Seattle — his official residence — when he was old enough to walk.

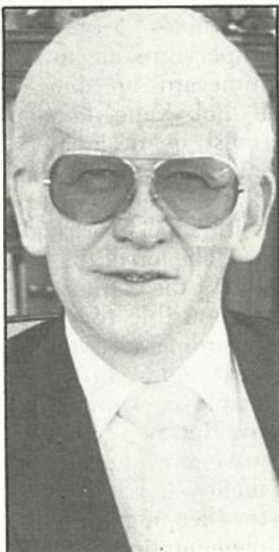


Photo by Ely U. Orias

In the early stages of the Korean conflict, Arno joined the Air Force as a cadet — completing pre-flight training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Tex., basic flight training at Bainbridge AFB, Ga., and flight training at Reese AFB in Lubbock, Tex. He flew T-28s, T-34s and B-25s, and this explains why Norm Arno, the engineer, is depicted as a bespectacled devil-may-care pilot in the flyer (no pun intended) announcing the March 30 luncheon in his honor.

From the Air Force, Arno returned home to resume college work. He received a B.S. degree in civil engineering from the University of Washington at Seattle and did graduate work in hydraulics at the same university. Arno is a licensed professional engineer.

In 1954 Arno started his Corps career as a project planner and hydraulics designer with the Seattle District. This was followed by an assignment in 1962 to the Anchorage-based Alaska District where he was responsible for its coastal engineering and hydraulic design activities. During the Corps' restoration work on Alaska's waterfront facilities that were destroyed by the March 1964 earthquake, Arno found himself as leader of the inspection team for Kenai Peninsula and Klawock which encompassed Kodiak, Seldovia,

Homer, Anchorage, Seward, and Valdez. His team was allocated 8% of the total federal restoration budget for that year.

From the latter part of 1966 up until most of 1967, Arno studied at Delft University in the Netherlands for his master's in coastal engineering. He returned to Alaska and in 1969 he left for Washington, D.C., where he did a 3-year tour of duty in the Office of the Chief of Engineers as head of its Engineering Division's coastal section and chief of Planning Division's estuaries section. At OCE he also served as staff specialist to the Director of Civil Works and as consultant and advisor to all Corps elements engaged in navigation and coastal planning and engineering work.

Arno came to the L.A. District in 1978 following a 3-year stint with the North Central Division as Engineering Division assistant chief and chief of Coastal Engineering and Hydraulic Design Branch, followed by a 2 1/2-year duty as chief of Chicago District's Engineering Division.

In the L.A. District, Norm Arno directs and manages the activities of some 240 engineers, scientists, planners and environmental specialists. Reporting directly to the District Engineer, he is

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## Safety Award

At the recent '87 LADO budget briefings for the South Pacific Division Commander and his staff, Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Kelly presented the Division Safety Award to the L.A. District for having the best safety record in 1986.

Col. Fred Butler, District commander, accepted the award, and after expressing thanks to Kelly and saying a few words of praise to the LADO Safety Office and the District as a whole, Butler handed the award to Chris Kronick, then Safety & Occupational Health Office chief.

Kelly also presented an award to Jerold Olsen, Las Vegas RO engineer, for having the best Resident Office

safety record for 1986.

"SPD has an equation where they consider a District's accident rates and the effectiveness of its program management," said Jim Patton, LADO's safety engineer. "Every year the Division safety officer evaluates each of the SPD districts and the one district with the best rating on both program management and accident rates wins the Division Safety Award."

It may be recalled that last year the L.A. District received the '85 Division Safety Award, a feat that marked the first time a district in SPD ever qualified for the award.

Patton said that the common accidents encountered in the workplace by most District employees involve slips and falls. — by Ely U. Orias



Photo by Larry Hawthorne

Chris Kronick, L.A. District's former chief of safety & occupational health, hangs the 1986 Division Safety Award in the office of Col. Fred Butler (left), the District Commander, as both Butler and Jim Patton, LADO's safety engineer, look admiringly on.

## 1987 Army theme:

# The United States Constitution

The U.S. Constitution has been selected as the Army's 1987 theme. Its selection was jointly announced by Army Secretary John O. Marsh Jr. and Gen. John A. Wickham Jr., Army Chief of Staff.

Partial text of the announcement follows:

"We are proud of the progress made in the past year to strengthen

Values,' the theme for 1986, throughout the total Army. Previous themes have developed into a solid flow of ideas and programs, each building on the preceding ones. As a result, we have strengthened the Army's winning spirit, physical fitness, excellence, families, leadership and values.

"Those of us in the total Army who take an oath of service have sworn to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. By doing so, we stand shoulder to shoulder with the framers of the Constitution who mutually pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. We do this freely because it is the Constitution which guarantees all citizens the rights and obligations which are the essence of being an American. And it is the Constitution that our comrades have, in other times and in other places, sacrificed to preserve."

The '87 Army theme dovetails with the observance nationwide of the bicentennial of the Constitution this year, as the republic focuses on stimulating an appreciation and understanding of its national heritage.

In a speech to the recent Army IG conference, Secretary Marsh said that although the Constitution was set in motion 200 years ago, it is today the singlemost important force impacting on the world.

"Our Constitution is the oldest written constitution in the world," said Marsh, "and yet we are considered a young nation. It has impacted on the governments and the structuring of governments of 162 of the world's nations."

Political scientists have described the U.S. Constitution as the cornerstone of American democracy, the document which has come to symbolize the nation's ideals of freedom,

justice, equal opportunity and hope.

Secretary Marsh said the Constitution is many things.

"It is a statement of national purpose and a statement of our nation's values; it is a contract between a people and their government, and it is a way of life. Finally, it is a model for a finely tuned, balanced form of government."

The Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution headed by former Supreme Court Justice Warren E. Burger is overseeing the preparations for this year's celebration marking the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution.





## \$600 impact insertion devices not in LAD's procurement inventory

by Larry Hawthorne

Myriad horror stories of \$600 hammers (impact-insertion devices) and \$300 flashlights (portable night-illumination equipment) abound throughout the Department of Defense procurement system.

The national media has had a field day reporting the occasional incident of government waste and abuse.

In the Los Angeles District, the record is clean. Taxpayers can sleep easier knowing that the price they paid for goods and services procured by the Los Angeles District was determined through open competition.

The Chief of Engineers, in a message in which he voiced concern over the public perception of Army contracting procedures, cited a recent survey that had the general public highly suspicious of Army DoD procurement practices.

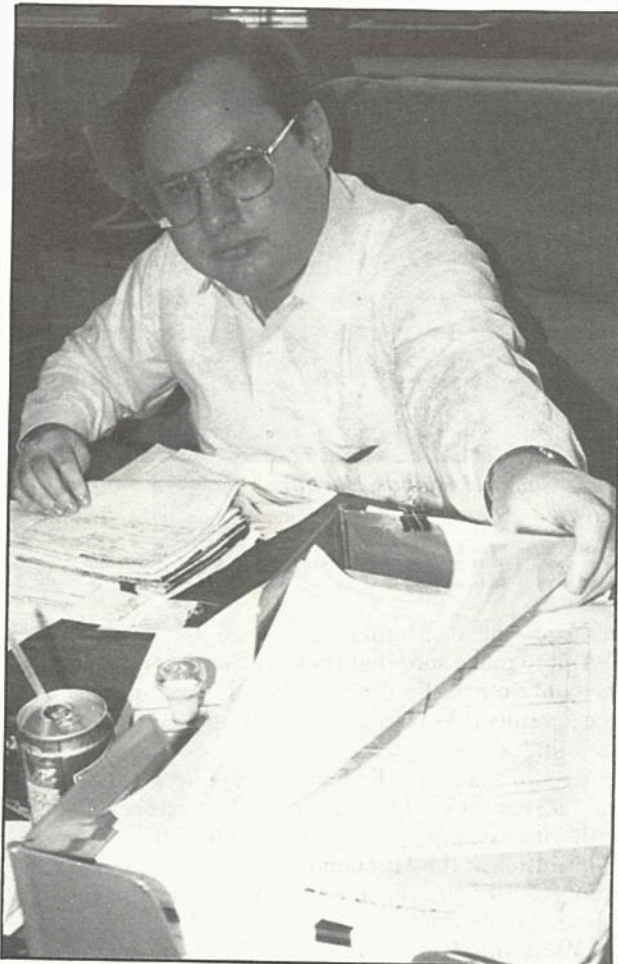
"Of the 157 contracts covered by the Competition in Contracting Act that the District awarded last year, none was awarded on a non-competitive, sole-source basis," reports Bernie Meirowsky, chief of Contracting Division. Only one contract, an emergency job to haul away hazardous waste from the Stringfellow Acid Pits, was awarded with limited competition.

**"I think the Corps has been well ahead of the Army and the rest of Department of Defense when it comes to competitive procurement."**

"The recent Packard Commission reported that 'Americans believe that the greatest cause of waste in Defense spending is fraud and overpricing by defense contractors' and that '45 cents of every defense dollar could be saved simply by eliminating waste and fraud from Defense spending,'" Lt. Gen. E. R. Heiberg said.

"I think the Corps has generally been well ahead of the Army and the rest of Department of Defense when it comes to competitive procurement," Meirowsky said. He gave as an example the fact that each Corps district has a "competition advocate" whose job it is to "promote full and open competition" in contracting by challenging barriers to outside competitive bidding. Lt. Col. Norman I. "Rick" Jackson, Deputy Commander for Civil Works, has been the District advocate since September 1985.

Meirowsky said that the use of performance specifications was another useful method to encourage competition for contracts that were at one time awarded on a sole-source basis.



Meirowsky, Contracting Division chief

## Corps projects prevent record '86 damages

Robert K. Dawson, assistant Army secretary for civil works, has announced that during 1986 the Army Corps of Engineers' flood control projects prevented a record \$27.3 billion in flood damages throughout the U.S.

This new record compares to a total of \$10.8 billion flood damages prevented in FY85. Corps projects

### LeTellier heads overseas

Retired Maj. Gen. Carroll N. LeTellier, Army Corps of Engineers, has been named program director for the State Department Office of Foreign Building Operations.

LeTellier will manage a \$2.9 billion security program for U.S. embassies around the world. Fred McNeely, former chief of the Corps' military construction division in OCE, will serve as LeTellier's construction manager.

When tapped for the State Department job, LeTellier was general manager of the Sverdrop Corporation's Eastern Group based in the nation's capital.

prevented \$16.8 billion in FY84 and a previous record \$23.2 billion in FY83, the announcement said.

The annual flood damage report by the Corps provides information on a fiscal year basis and details flood damages, acres inundated, loss of life, and damage prevented by Corps flood control measures.

"I am especially pleased to report that our nationwide system of dams, levees and other flood control projects operated by the Corps of Engineers prevented \$26.2 billion in flood damages," Dawson said. "In addition, the Corps' emergency operation activities prevented another \$1.1 billion. This total of \$27.3 billion is almost triple the 10-year (1976-1985) average of \$9.4 billion."

Since record-keeping began in 1933, the Corps of Engineers' estimated accumulated annual flood damages prevented by flood control projects total \$183 billion through FY86.

"Often overlooked, but something we in the Corps take great pride in, are the benefits realized from the operation of our projects and the assistance we provide in helping others," the Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. E.R. Heiberg said.

### TDY at Edwards

## Corps cadet to be Rhodes Scholar

West Point Cadet John Tien, who was on a month's TDY last summer at the Corps' Edwards AFB Resident Office, has been nominated to a 2-year Rhodes scholarship at Oxford University in England.

Currently the brigade commander of the academy's 4,500-cadet corps, Tien will attend Oxford starting Oct. 11, 1987. He will pursue degrees in philosophy, politics and economics.

For now Tien is looking forward to a May graduation and a commission in the armor branch. He will then attend the armor officer basic course before departing for Oxford University.

Tien maintains a 3.67 grade point average in civil engineering at West Point. His Edwards TDY was in line with the Cadet District Engineer Program which offers instruction to Army officer candidates interested in military engineering.

The Cerritos, Calif., resident is the 61st West Point cadet to receive a Rhodes scholarship, according to the Academy's scholarship committee. Tien was selected for the honor out of 20 accredited cadets who competed for the scholarship.

British philanthropist Cecil Rhodes who died in 1902 left his fortune in his will to establish the Rhodes scholarship for deserving students from the British Commonwealth, the United States, and West Germany. Oxford U is Rhodes alma mater.

In his will, Rhodes said his candidates must have intellectual attainment, character, leadership, and physical vigor.

"Since these are attributes that we'd like to instill in every cadet, it's not surprising that West Point has done so well over the years," said Maj. Jonathan Adams, scholarship committee secretary in the academic department. — Ely U. Orias

## Penalties enforced against non-performers

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has ruled that the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) lacks the authority to mitigate penalties in performance-based firings of federal employees.

The court said that the legislative history of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 makes clear that Congress sought to make it easier for federal agencies to get rid of nonperforming employees. It further stated that allowing 3rd parties such as the MSPB to impose lesser penalties by mitigating the firing actions would frustrate the intent of Congress.

The case involved a Federal Home Loan Bank Board employee who was fired on charges that his work was unsatisfactory. When the employee took his case to MSPB, the presiding official held that mitigating circumstances warranted changing the removal to a demotion from a grade GS-11 to a GS-9. The full MSPB, however, overruled him, declaring that it lacked power to mitigate penalties in poor performance cases. On the employee's appeal, the court upheld the MSPB's ruling.

Earlier this summer, in a case involving firings for misconduct — as contrasted to removals for unsatisfactory work — the court held that such firing could be mitigated by the MSPB if the circumstances warranted.

**"If I could just do it over, I would do it better — maybe even right." —William Faulkner, author**





Channel dredging makes safe navigation possible for these Channel Islands Harbor boats and similar craft using Ventura Harbor six miles away.

Photos by Ely U. Orias

## Dredging program in high gear . . .

(From Page 1)

Santa Barbara (\$700,000); and Marina del Rey (\$981,000).

Charles "Steve" Dwyer, LAD's Operations Branch chief, is program manager of the five maintenance dredging operations. It is his responsibility to meet all of the contractual dollar amounts involved.

Project managers are Planning Division's Jane Fulton for Hueneme's Channel Islands Harbor; Mike Ellis for Ventura Harbor; Gretchen Honan for Santa Barbara; Ghassam Mikhchi for Morro Bay; and Stan Fujimoto for Marina del Rey.

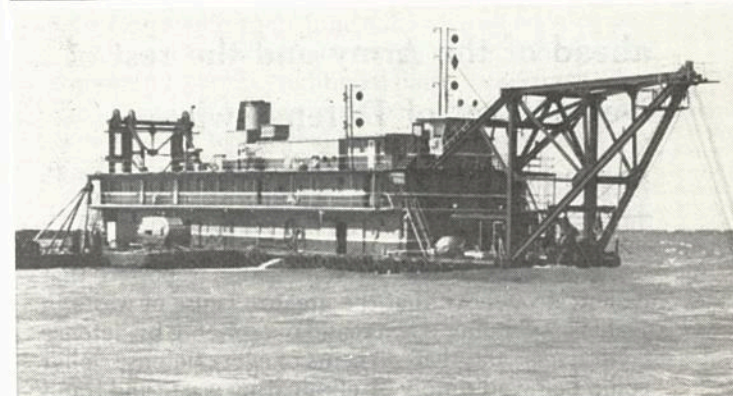
Dredging operations have been proceeding in accordance with plans and specifications project

managers have formulated.

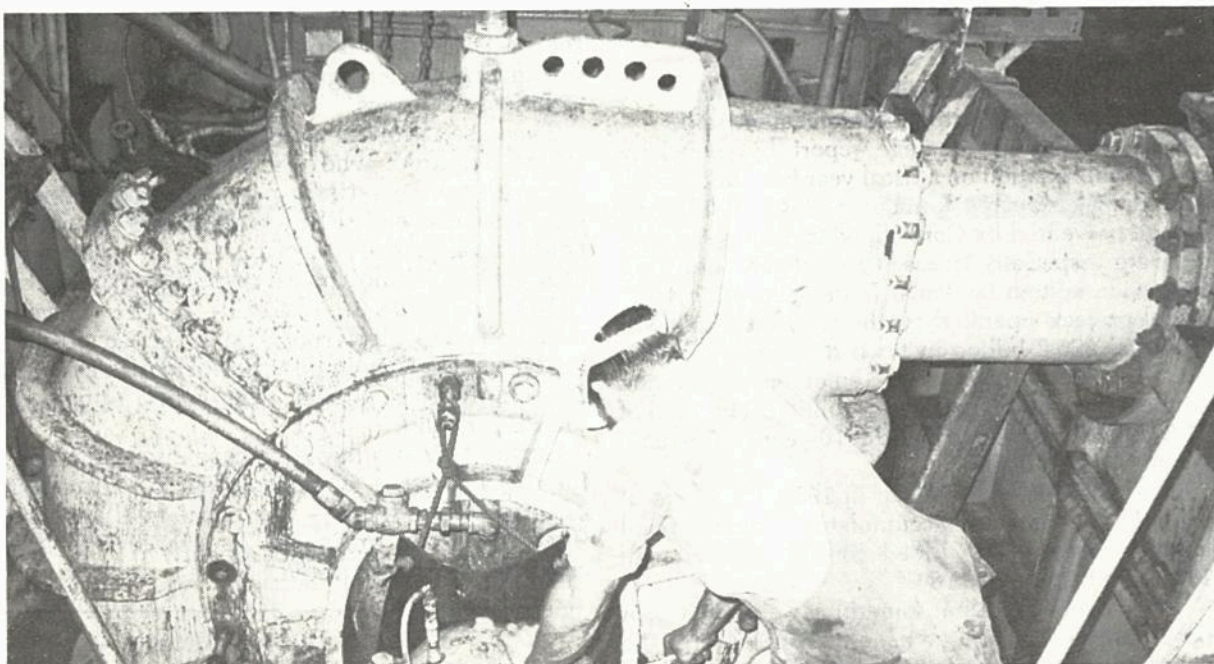
And to make sure that they are being carried out by the contractors, the District's North Coast Project Office engineer — Jim Page — is in and out of the dredging areas.

An annuitant recalled to active Corps service for his vast knowledge of coastal matters, Page's authority extends to Morro Bay some 150 miles north of his office at the Hueneme Naval Construction Battalion Center and down to Newport Beach in the opposite direction.

"With Jim Page monitoring for the Corps, Ollie and Headway's harbor cleanup plus similar operations at three other sites, the dredging package should be delivered on time," Dwyer said.



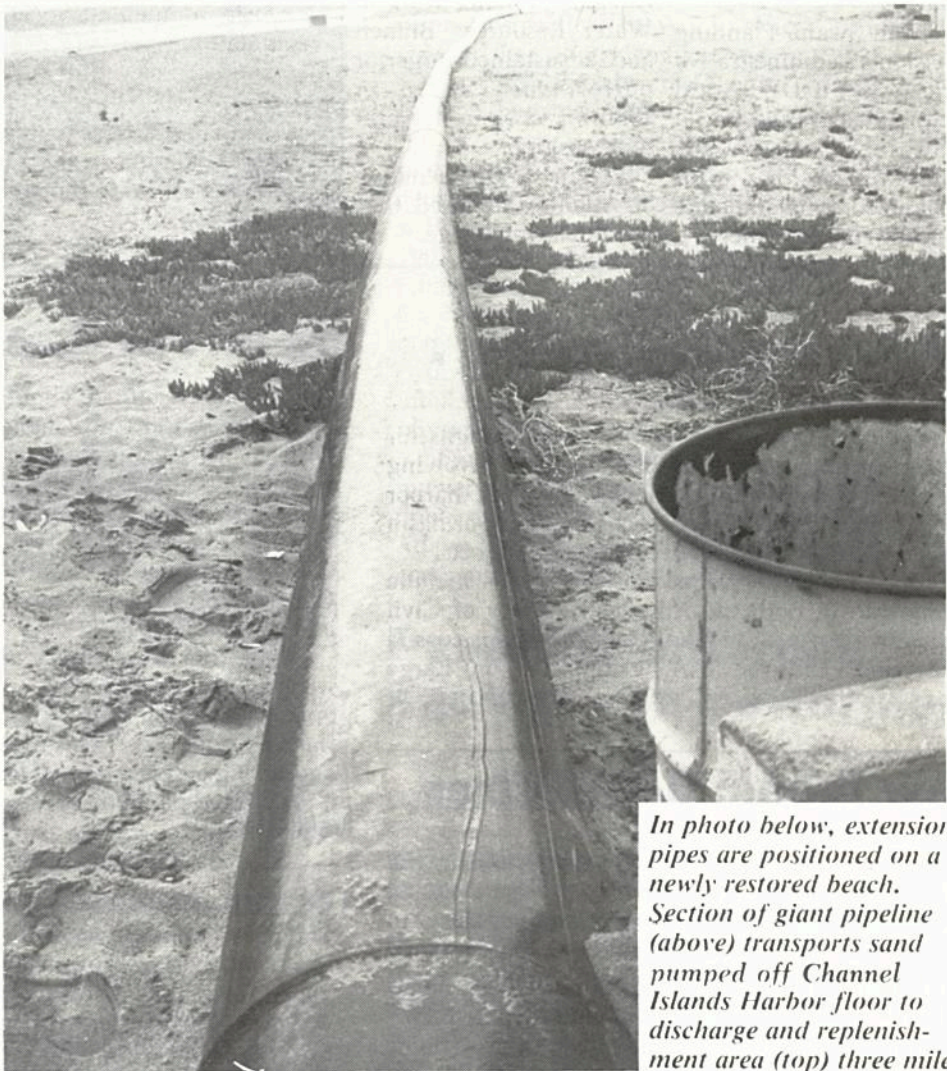
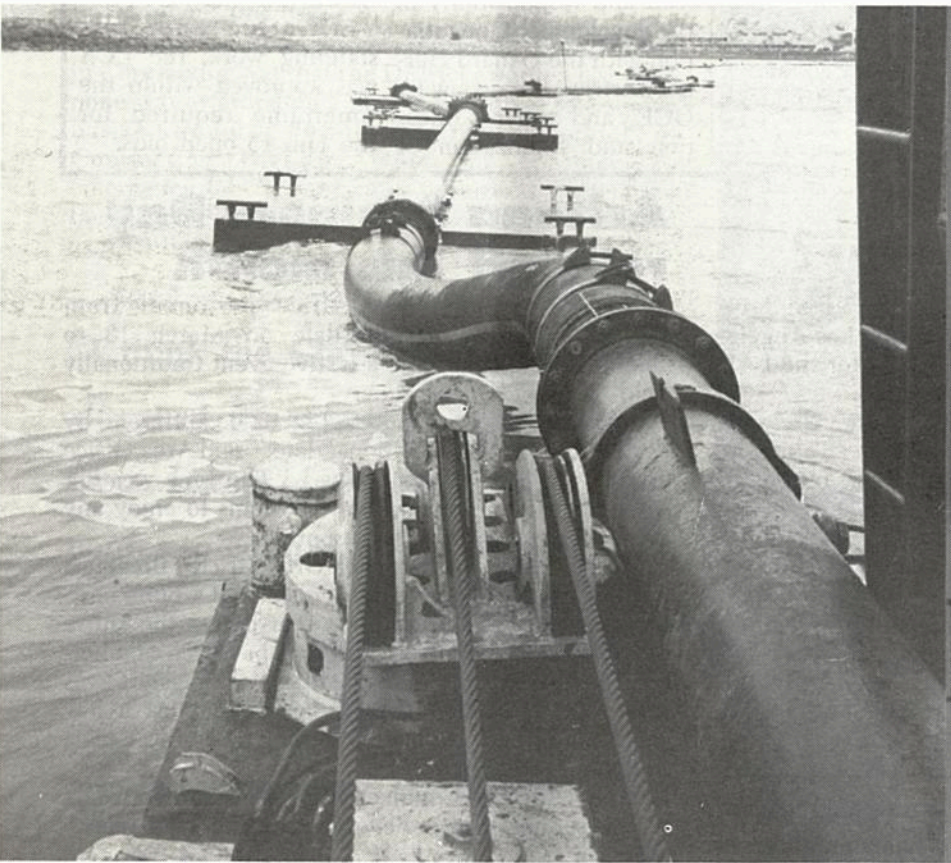
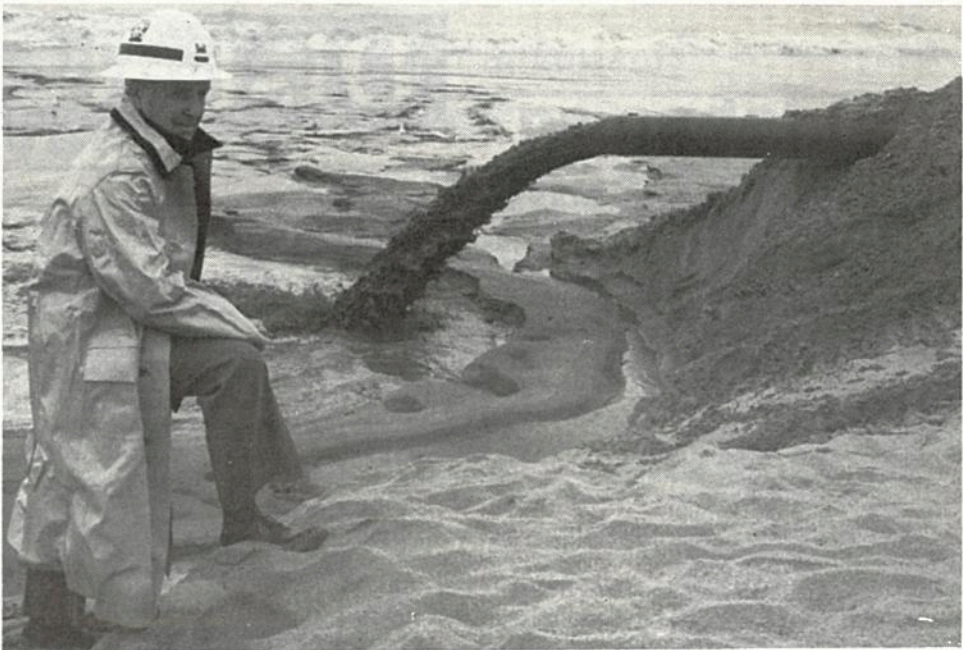
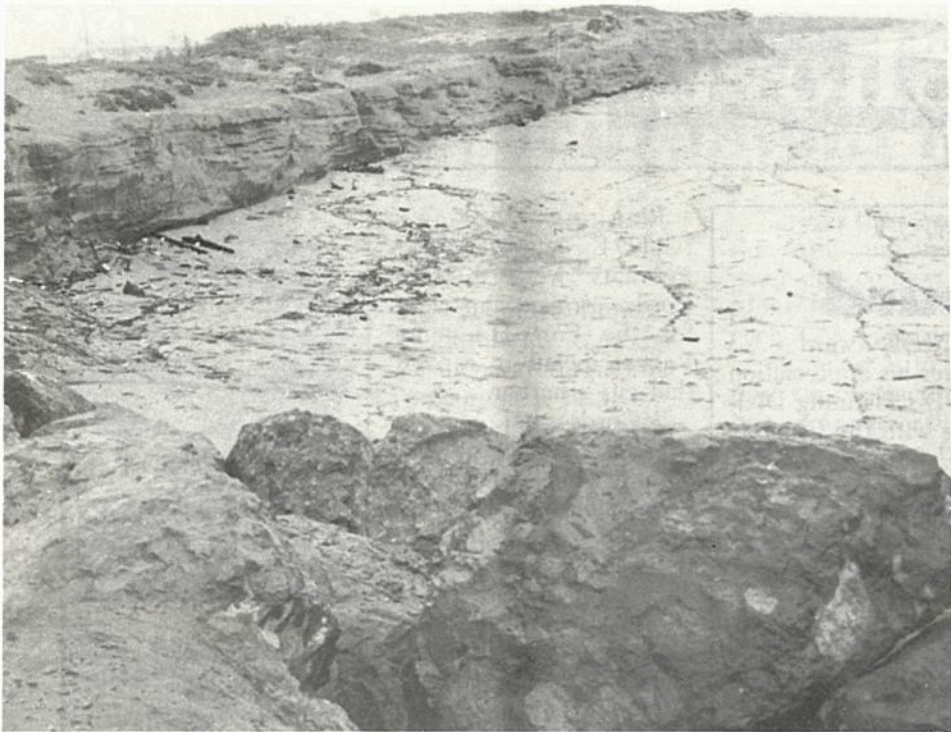
The Ollie (above), a much bigger dredge, pumps 30,000 cubic yards of sand per 24-hour day, while the Headway (below) vacuums 9,000 cubic yards of sand around the clock.



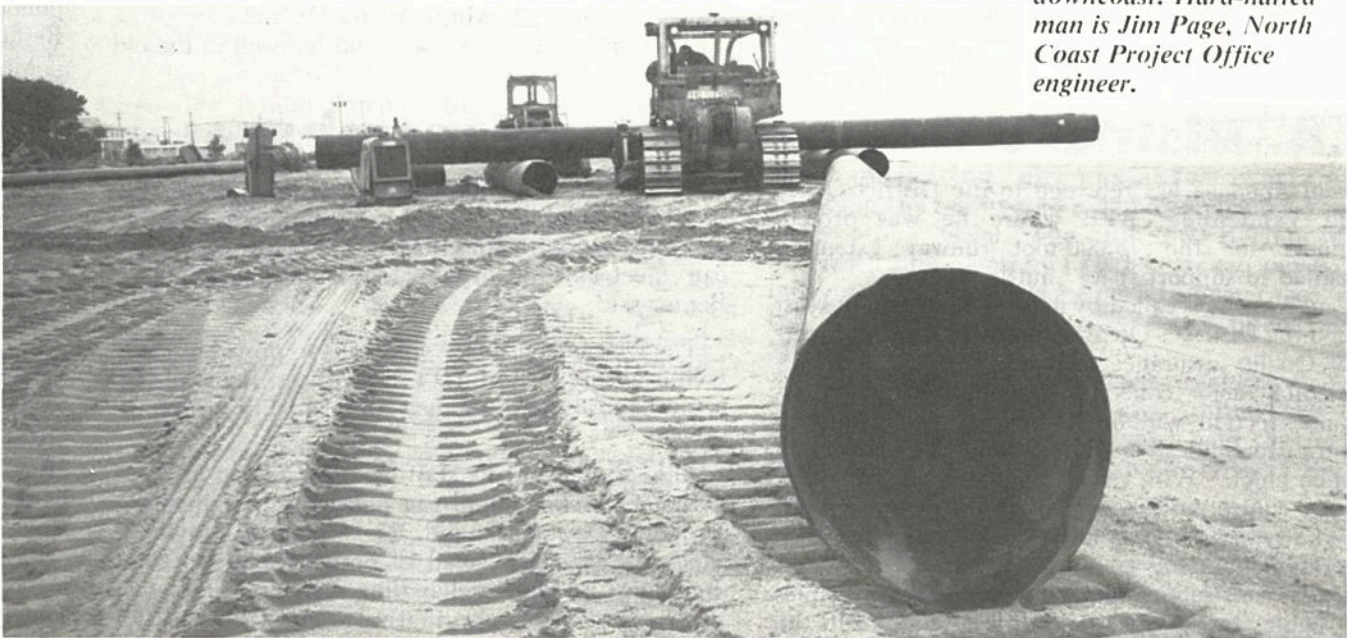
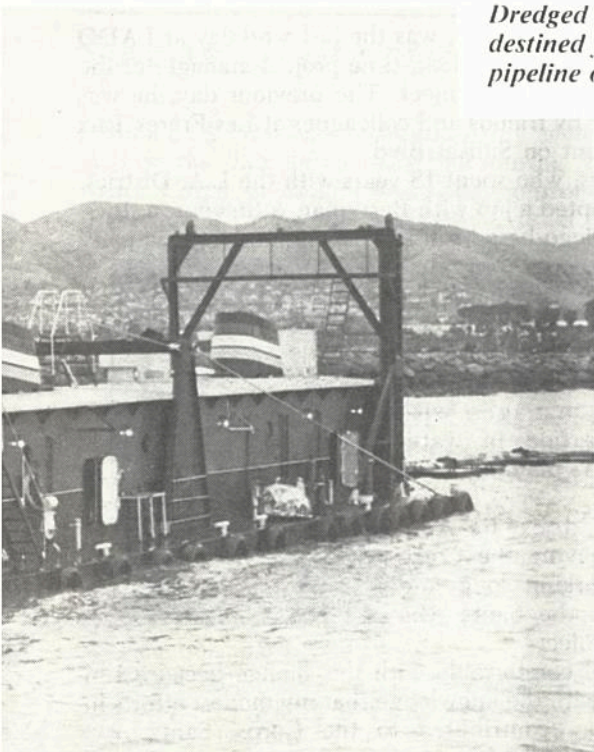
Pumps like this one on the Headway are constantly checked for structural breach likely to be caused by the dredge's powerful sand-cutting action.







*In photo below, extension pipes are positioned on a newly restored beach. Section of giant pipeline (above) transports sand pumped off Channel Islands Harbor floor to discharge and replenishment area (top) three miles downcoast. Hard-hatted man is Jim Page, North Coast Project Office engineer.*



*Dredged sand from the Ventura Harbor destined for eroded beach (top) travels via pipeline on flotation devices (above).*



# District Shorts

Photo by Ron Lockmann



Swain

Vivian Swain, Planning Division's administrative officer, is PRIDE Award recipient for January. Swain, a 7 1/2-year Corps veteran, has been recognized for overall outstanding performance —

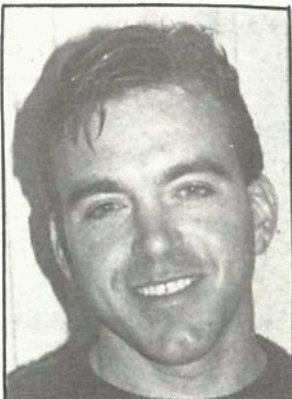
especially her dealings with the Personnel Office on behalf of division personnel. "Vivian works closely with Personnel in effecting personnel actions and solving other personnel matters," the citation stated. In addition to several special act awards she's received, Swain was presented the 1983 Federal Executive Board Award (clerk-typist category) for her work in Water Resources Branch and a sustained superior performance award in 1986 for work in her present position. Vivian Swain, a native of Atlanta, attended that city's Clark College.

## Brumbaugh letter on . . .

### PRIDE Award

A LAD Planning Division PRIDE Award recipient has expressed in a letter his appreciation for the "opportunity to visit SPD's Planning Division and discuss its perspectives with the Chief as part of the award." In the letter addressed to Carl Enson, Planning Division chief and architect of the PRIDE Award, Robert Brumbaugh, the November '85 awardee, found the visit "not only enjoyable but also extremely illuminating." He also found the review of SPDPD's program and functions with reps of SPD's Coastal & Navigation, Environmental, Special Studies, and Plan Formulation as a "very worthwhile complement to the education of a study manager toward an understanding of the Corps Planning mission." Brumbaugh believes the opportunity to visit SPDPD extended to the future award recipients will be beneficial to the entire L.A. District Planning Division.

Photo by Ron Lockmann



Cords

Planning Division's PRIDE Award for February went to Don Cords, project manager for the Port Hueneme Project meant to expand that city's harbor. "(Cords) has had to overcome many obstacles, among which were three Oxnard Harbor District modifications of its portion of the project," the citation stated. "Each of the modifications required changes to the plans and specifications." The citation further stated that Cords took the lead and responsibility in the development, negotiation with the Oxnard Harbor District, the review by OCE, and the modification and finalization of

the project's LCA. The Hueneme project is the first one to be signed under the new WRDA. Because of Cords' initiative and outstanding work, the LCA was approved within the timeframe required for the Jan. 15 open bids."

## Arno retiring . . .

(From Page 4)

responsible for the review of plans and designs for military projects as well as civil projects involving multipurpose dams, flood control channels, harbor improvements, beach erosion control and river basin water and land resources development projects. Arno's numerous professional affiliations include membership in both the American Society of Civil Engineers, serving on the committee on coastal engineering, and the U.A. Committee on Large Dams.

## New faces; departures

Fourteen new faces have recently joined the District Office workforce, with five of them assigned to Real Estate Division, four to Planning, three to Contracting, one to Personnel, and one to Con-Ops. With Real Estate are John Sunshine, Nanette Newby, John Castello, Sherman Hom, and Dennis Eich. Planning Division has Craig Hucks, Janae Root, Jeff Davis, and Judith Colon. Barbara Cooper, Nancy Bullock, and Vivian Kahn are assigned to Contracting. Meanwhile, LADO's "old faces" who have recent-

## LAD: Ski Cup venue?

There has been talk about holding the 1987 Corps of Engineers Ski Cup Challenge in the Los Angeles District, with a couple of reasons given for the LAD selection: better snow and participation. Lex Kamstra, Engineering Division; Gretchen Honan, Planning Division; and Sam Tabiando, Construction Division, are looking for interested Corps employees who have better locale and time ideas for the COE ski cup. "Since the local resorts get overcrowded on the weekends, a possible plan would be to hold the event on a Friday, then have an apres-ski party that night," the searchers said. "This means being a diehard skier and taking a day of annual leave." Interested personnel are asked to contact Tabiando (5680), Kamstra (5526), or Honan (5408).

ly departed for new employment include Dennis Majors who now works for a civilian engineering company in San Diego; John Foxworthy who has joined the City of Los Angeles' Department of Water & Power; Carl Hester who is now with the L.A. Postal System; Delia Diaz now with IRS; Don Costello to Parks & Recreation in Boston; and Kathleen Kunysz now with the L.A. Metro Water District. Welcome to the new faces and farewell to the old ones.

## L.A. District's Q-team has new member

Paul Apodaca has returned to the District Office from Vandenberg AFB where he was project engineer for the 75,000-foot runway extension designed to support space shuttle landings. Paul A, as he is called by fellow employees, has just joined the District's Qteam, otherwise known properly as Quality assurance section. "Paul's major concern while in the quality assurance section will be to beef up our assurance testing capabilities," said Paul Berger, Construction Branch chief. "With recent emphasis on contractor quality control and reductions in manpower spaces, our ability to perform quality control testing has been severely hampered." Under construction quality management principles the contractor performs control testing, but the government is still responsible for acceptance testing.

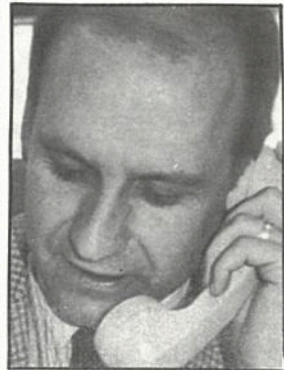
"Paul A's task will be to evaluate our present capabilities and determine what equipment, training and outside contracting is necessary to assure that we can meet our quality assurance responsibilities," Berger said. The Q-team's primary mission is to provide strong technical support to LAD's field offices. Ron Brusha, a mechanical engineer, heads the quality assurance section. Others on Brusha's staff are Ray Yamamura and Emanuel Molina supplying mechanical engineering support; Dov Hack and Ras Mohageg providing electrical expertise; Jihad El Bettar doing structural functions; Ed Quijano handling structural problems; and Joe Perez coordinating "constructability" reviews.

## Arizona Engineer Day rolls off this month

Arizona-Nevada Area Office personnel from Phoenix will be in Scottsdale on March 13 to celebrate Engineer Day, a festive event traditionally held Corpwide each June. "Arizona folks are not trying to be different by departing from the traditional date," said Area Office admin. assistant Dagmar Lowe. "The June weather in Arizona is so hot that no one seems to enjoy any outdoor party during that month." Last June the Arizona Area Office tried "Breakfast in the Park" in Phoenix, but it got so hot around mid-morning, Lowe said, and the year before the entire office marked the day in Flagstaff in search of a better June weather. "The weather in Flagstaff was somewhat bearable, but the day lasted just a few short hours because everyone had to drive at least four hours round trip." Lunch for the Engineer Day affair in Scottsdale will be catered to afford everybody a chance to relax.

## Majors takes new job

Tuesday, Feb. 24, was the last workday at LADO for Dennis Majors, long-time project manager of the Santa Ana River Project. The previous day, he was honored by friends and colleagues at Les Freres Taix Restaurant on Sunset Blvd. Majors, who spent 18 years with the L.A. District, has accepted a job with Berryman & Stevenson, Inc., a San Diego-based full-service engineering company involved in land-use planning, city engineering, and a variety of services for governmental agencies. Majors will be a project manager with specialization in water resources planning and design. How does he feel about leaving the Corps after working long and hard on the Santa Ana River Project? "I feel comfortable with the change because I'm leaving with the knowledge that my modest efforts in some way contributed to the Corps' Santa Ana achievement," Majors said.



Majors

Photo by Ely U. Orías



# Jenious passes on; 3 other deaths noted with regret

by Ely U. Orias

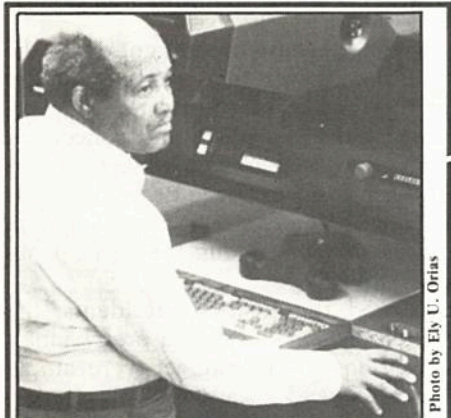
The Los Angeles District has noted with sadness and regret the death of a LADO Mapping Unit employee, as well as the passing of two Corps retirees and the father of a Comptroller Office fiscal policy officer.

Lionell "Radio" Jenious, photogrammetry technician, died on Jan. 30; Corps retiree Mary Nelson died on Jan. 11, and another retiree, Emma Moore, died on Jan. 20; Bob Kane's father, Gerald "Bud" Kane, died on Jan. 30.

## Lionell Jenious

Moments before he suffered (and died of) a heart attack, Lionell had been driving northbound on the Harbor Freeway enroute to work.

Paramedics summoned by Julie Martinez to a motorist who she thought was in dire medical straits, found Jenious without any vital signs of life. After fruitless attempts to revive him, Lionell's body was taken to the L.A. Coroner's Office.



Lionell Jenious in April 1986 as he momentarily takes his attention away from LADO's newly-acquired computerized cartographic device and a companion off- or on-line plotting table. The Mapping Unit's \$1 million state-of-the-art instruments are the first of their kind in the entire Army Corps of Engineers.

Martinez did not know until later in the day that the person for whom she had summoned medical help was a fellow Corps employee.

A solemn service in Lionell's memory was held at Angelus Crenshaw Chapel in Los Angeles prior to his mid-day burial at Inglewood Park Cemetery on Feb. 6.

LADO colleagues and Corps friends attended the memorial service during which Mordena Moore, a Corps retiree, recited a personal tribute and spoke about Lionell's long and dedicated government service.

Col. Fred Butler, District commander, condoled with the Jenious family through a letter he sent to Mrs. Henrietta Jenious.

"It is with regret that we learned of Lionell's untimely death and I wish to convey to you the heartfelt sympathy of all of us in the Los Angeles District. Our sympathy goes out to you and your family in this time of sorrow."

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Lionell was born on June 28, 1933. He married the former Henrietta Arington in St. Louis on June 22, 1957, and three children were born to them.

After attending Stowe Teachers College in St. Louis and completing a hitch in the Army, Lionell joined the Corps of Engineers in L.A. in 1962. He spent most of his LADO years between the Mapping Unit and the Baseyard Survey Section of the Engineering Division.

Lionell's family and friends fondly called him "Radio" for keeping himself abreast, even as a youngster, of current events by just listening to radio broadcasts and passing on to his friends and loved ones the news of the day.

## Mary Nelson

A 45-year service with the Corps of Engineers ended for Mary Nelson on Jan. 3, 1986 — the day she retired. Last

(To Page 12)

## FEDERAL INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING FORMULA

The 1987 tax year started Dec. 14. In January new W-4 forms were distributed to all employees with instruction to return the completed forms — to LADO's payroll liaison officer.

W-4 is the new employee withholding certificate, a 6-line document that tells a worker's employer how much in federal taxes to withhold from each paycheck.

Although the form itself is brief, the accompanying 4-page instructions have baffled a lot of taxpayers. IRS spokesmen said there are no immediate plans to change the W-4 or its instructions nor any of its imposed deadlines.

The national Finance Center, meanwhile, has devised a formula (shown below) for computing federal income tax withholdings.

### Steps

1. Multiply the gross biweekly wages by 26 to obtain the annual wages.
2. Determine the exemption allowance by applying the following guideline, and subtract this amount from the annual wages to obtain the taxable income:
  - Exemption Allowance = \$1,900 X Number of Exemptions
3. Apply the taxable income computed in Step 2 to the table below to determine the federal tax withholdings:
4. Divide the annual federal income tax withholding by 26 to obtain the biweekly federal income tax withholding.

### TAX WITHHOLDING TABLE (Annualized Percentage Method) SINGLE — HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

If The Amount Of Taxable Income Is:		The Amount Of Federal Income Tax Withholding Should Be:	
Not more than \$640		\$0	
Over	But Not Over		Of Excess Over
\$ 640	\$ 2,440	\$ 0 plus 11.0%	\$ 640
2,440	17,440	198 plus 15.0%	2,440
17,440	27,640	2,448 plus 28.0%	17,440
27,640	54,640	5,304 plus 35.0%	27,640
54,640	and over	14,754 plus 38.5%	54,640

### MARRIED

If The Amount Of Taxable Income Is:		The Amount Of Federal Income Tax Withholding Should Be:	
Not more than \$1,860		\$0	
Over	But Not Over		Of Excess Over
\$ 1,860	\$ 4,860	\$ 0 plus 11.0%	\$ 1,860
4,860	29,860	330 plus 15.0%	4,860
29,860	46,860	4,080 plus 28.0%	29,860
46,860	91,860	8,840 plus 35.0%	46,860
91,860	and over	24,590 plus 38.5%	91,860

## Around the Corner ... by Jessica Jacobs

Bob Land recently called from Medford, Ore., to pass on some information. He said a number of retirees who live in and around Medford have gotten together, among whom were Hugo Krugthef and his wife Monica. He also mentioned Ron and Dorothy Searls going to Medford for a visit.

Enthusiastically, Bob said he surprised Norm Arno and his group when he turned up at the Medford airport after learning they were coming to check one of the rivers in the area. Bob said Norm and company had dinner with him and his wife and they discussed things about the L.A. District and the Corps.

Bob is planning a party just as soon as the barn is completed. He can now park at least 10 RVs around the barn. So if you are around Medford drop by the "Land estate" and say hi!

Our sympathy to Lupe Gonzales and her family on the death of her mother.

June Bulow called to relay the news that came from

Buck Freeman about former L.A. District comptroller Sam Johnson having a heart attack. Write him at 1601 Glen View Rd., #A, Seal Beach, Calif. 90740, or call (213) 431-0518 and cheer him up.

George Forest, past F&A chief, has been under the weather. Drop him a line at 9171 Ellsworth Drive, Huntington Beach, Calif. 92646.

June and Glen Bulow spent Feb. 17 with Buck Freeman. Buck, the Bulows and I worked together at one time or another at the District Office.

Frank Carroll, formerly from the Engineering Division, is in Eisenhower Hospital at Rancho Mirage.

All of you hurry up and get well.

I will decide during the month whether or not I should continue with Around the Corner. It's hard getting news. Everyone likes to read it, but no one sends in anything.



## Corps employee 1 of 17 honored by President

Of the 17 federal employees recently honored by the President with an awards ceremony in the Old Executive Office Building, one was an Army engineer.

Dr. Louis R. Shaffer, technical director of the Army Construction Engineering Research Lab (CERL) in Champaign, Ill., received the 1986 Presidential Distinguished Executive Rank Award for Senior Executive Service.

The award recognizes Shaffer's contributions to DoD's construction efforts at CERL, among which is the use of developing technology to reduce the cost of acquiring and maintaining military facilities.

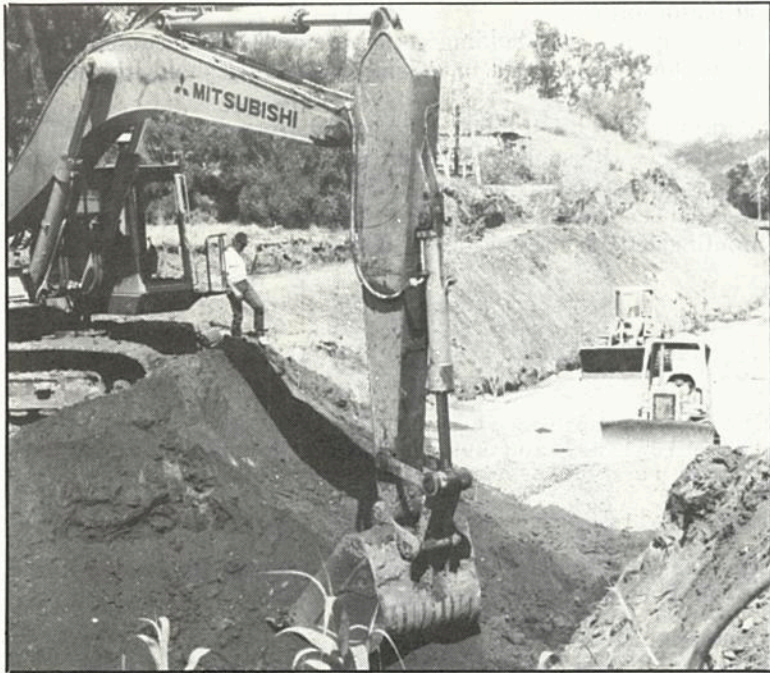
Shaffer has been the technical director of CERL Champaign since its establishment in 1969.

**"Modesty is the only sure bait when you angle for praise."**

—Fourth Earl of Chesterfield, English author



# Report From the Field



In middle photo, James Lindsey (right), Con rep. and James Baron (center), project engineer, with Dave Solomon, San Diego County flood control officer. They've been described by Lakeside residents as "... the men who, most of the time, if not always, were at the project site from start to finish." Rados men and equipment (left photo) continue with channel excavation to give way to construction of the triple box culvert (right photo) which actually is 1,300-foot long and part of the 10,000-foot Los Coches Creek flood control channel.

Photos by Mary Allison



## Los Coches Creek Project finished 9 months early

by Ely U. Orias

A Corps flood control project in a San Diego suburb between El Cajon and Santee which had required at least 18 months to complete was finished nine months ahead of schedule.

"It's beautiful, just absolutely beautiful," said Mary Allison, president of the Los Coches Creek Flood Victims Association of Lakeside. "I wish it'd rain to see how it would work."

Steve P. Rados, Inc., a Santa Ana-based construction company, started work on the \$8.5 million Los Coches channel project in April 1986, with James Lindsey as Con rep for quality assurance. Over a month ago the project was officially dedicated.

In his dedication remarks, Los Angeles District Commander Col. Fred Butler said: "It just goes to show that flood control projects, like babies, develop at different rates. This project might have first looked to have the gestation period of an elephant, but Los Coches Creek was in fact born a racehorse!"

The Rados group was praised for putting Los Coches through its paces so fast that the Corps project manager, Warren Hagstrom, reportedly had

to scramble to keep the feed bag full. Butler said Rados and Hagstrom were just two of the many folks whose contributions made Los Coches possible.

"I'm sure we'd all agree that the key to making Los Coches a reality was perseverance in the face of adversity," Butler said. "Take Mary Allison, for example, and the Los Coches Creek Flood Victims Association. When things were really looking bad, Mary asked us to forget the 'Cadillac' and just build a 'Ford' of a flood control project."

"Well, she got her wish. She also got some free driving lessons as part of the experience, including how to back up going downhill and around corners when the construction trucks (were) coming straight toward (her)."

The 600 Lakeside residents who pushed hard for the immediate construction of the channel had to give contractor equipment "gangway privileges" on the single access road between the highway and the project which slices Lakeside in two.

The project required the excavation of 195,000 cubic yards of earth, the placement of 865 tons of rebar and 22,700 cubic yards of concrete, and the building of six bridges.

Lindsey who was at the project site each day to as-

sure that 250 Lakeside families got a quality product for their money, says he is not to receive all the credit. He gives his special thanks and appreciation to three Corps colleagues — Frank Lara, Lex Kamstra, and Mary Lou Hale. "Their assistance was much needed," Lindsey said.

Butler also said that because the job got done, the residents around Lakeside won't have to face another flood season for the foreseeable future.

"The persistence, professionalism and concern of the folks I mentioned, as well as people like Congressman Duncan Hunter, the San Diego Board of Supervisors, and San Diego County's own Dave Solomon have played a large part in making the Los Coches project possible," Butler said.

Butler then assured the Lakeside residents, the political representatives and the skilled professionals that their contributions to the project were ample reasons for its ardent success.

"I couldn't end my remarks without thanking my own staff," Butler said. "In addition to Jim Lindsey and Warren Hagstrom, thanks go to former project manager Ron Ganzfried, former project leader Bob Chu, and his successor as project leader, Hiroshi Eto."

### Channel 7

#### 'Dr. George' to feature Prado



Photo by Dave Riegle

Dr. George Fischbeck, Channel 7 TV weatherman, makes point on flood control to Dennis Majors (center), Santa Ana River Project manager, and Larry Hawthorne, District public affairs officer, during January taping of special feature at Prado Dam. The segment, one of a five-part series on flooding, was due to be aired over KABC sometime in March.

#### 'Partners in Excellence'

by Joe Robertucci

Kiewit Western Co., builder of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel's Reach I, has been honored with the Corps of Engineers' "Partners in Excellence Plaque" in a ceremony at the Maricopa County Civil Works Resident Office in Phoenix.

Neil Erwin, resident engineer, and his staff, and officials from both LADO and SPD witnessed the ceremony.

The plaque presentation coincided with the recent visit of Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Kelly, SPD commander, and Col. Fred Butler, LAD commander, to Phoenix and other area/resident offices in the District.

Carlos Hobson, Kiewit's area manager, accepted the plaque on his company's behalf; Cotton Smith received an award for "superior performance as Kiewit's ACDC project superintendent; and Ed Cylwik also received an award for "superior performance as Kiewit's ACDC project engineer, and for outstanding job as quality control and safety officer."

In September 1985, Kiewit was awarded a \$12.6

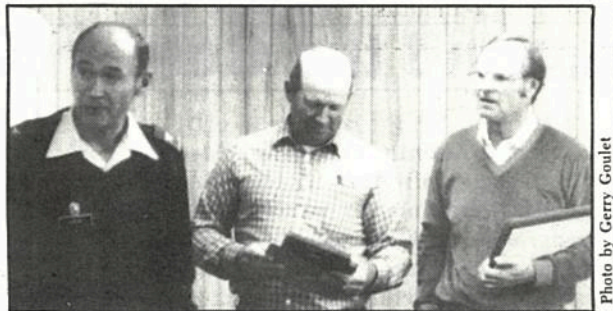


Photo by Gerry Goulet

Col. Fred Butler (left), District commander, has just presented "Partners in Excellence" awards to Cotton Smith (center), Kiewit's project superintendent, and Carlos Hobson, the company's project manager, at ACDCs Reach I.

million contract for the excavation and disposal of earth from a 4-mile section at the outlet end of ACDC.

The ACDC, a 16.5-mile stretch paralleling the Arizona Canal, is part of the Phoenix Vicinity Streams Project designed as a flood control project through the use of dams, levees, flowage easements and bank stabilization.



## Man who founded Prado Shooting Range honored

Robert E. Petersen, founder and chairman of the Board of Petersen Publishing Co. and the individual responsible for the establishment of the 1984 Olympics shooting site, was recently honored with a recognition ceremony at the Prado Tiro Shooting Range.

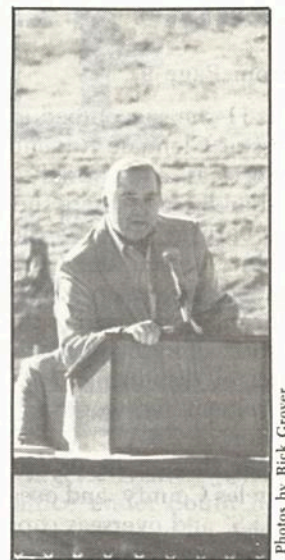
Col. Fred Butler, District commander, praised Petersen for "... the positive attitude and the leadership you showed during those short few months before the Olympics when you were responsible for the development of these facilities."

Petersen, who continues to support the facility long after the conclusion of the '84 Olympiad, was likewise commended by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, the Regional Parks Department, and the Prado Tiro Foundation at Chino.

In May 1985, Petersen contributed six American trap and skeet fields. "Because of this generous contribution to San Bernardino County and the Regional Parks Department, Prado Tiro is recognized nationally as one of the finest facilities of its type in the country," the County Board of Supervisors citation stated.



Col. Fred Butler turns to the honoree, Robert Petersen, as he praises his past and present contributions to the Prado Tiro Shooting Range. Seated with Petersen (from left) are Larry Walker, San Bernardino County supervisor; Mrs. Bob Petersen; former SBC supervisor Bob Townsend (wearing baseball cap); City of Chino Mayor Fred Aguiar; and SBC Regional Park Superintendent Steve Messerli. In right photo, Petersen thanks the Corps of Engineers, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, the Prado Tiro Foundation for the "... honor you've accorded me today." A celebrity shoot followed the ceremony.



Photos by Rick Grover

## Army Engineers' early feats paved road of westward movement

by Dr. Anthony Turhollow

When one views the dioramas at the Visitors' Center at Cumberland Gap, one observes an inconsistency with what he naturally expected.

Portrayed as a procession in the march of civilization westward are the buffalo following the trail to the salt licks, the fur trader and hunter, the cattle raiser, and the pioneer farmer.

One century later at South Pass in the Rockies, one notes a similar pattern of frontiers: trader, rancher or miner, and farmer.

Too many studies of westward expansion offer the above order as an accurate delineation of how the Americans moved westward. Fortunately, recent scholars, particularly William H. Goetzmann, supply a necessary corrective recognition to the above picture by adding the Army, especially its Engineers.

An examination of the activities — explorations and surveys — of the Army Engineers in the Colorado River Basin demonstrates their vital role in the development of the trans-Mississippi Region.

During the westward expansion of the 1840s to the Pacific Coast, including the acquisition of the huge southwestern region as a result of the Mexican War,

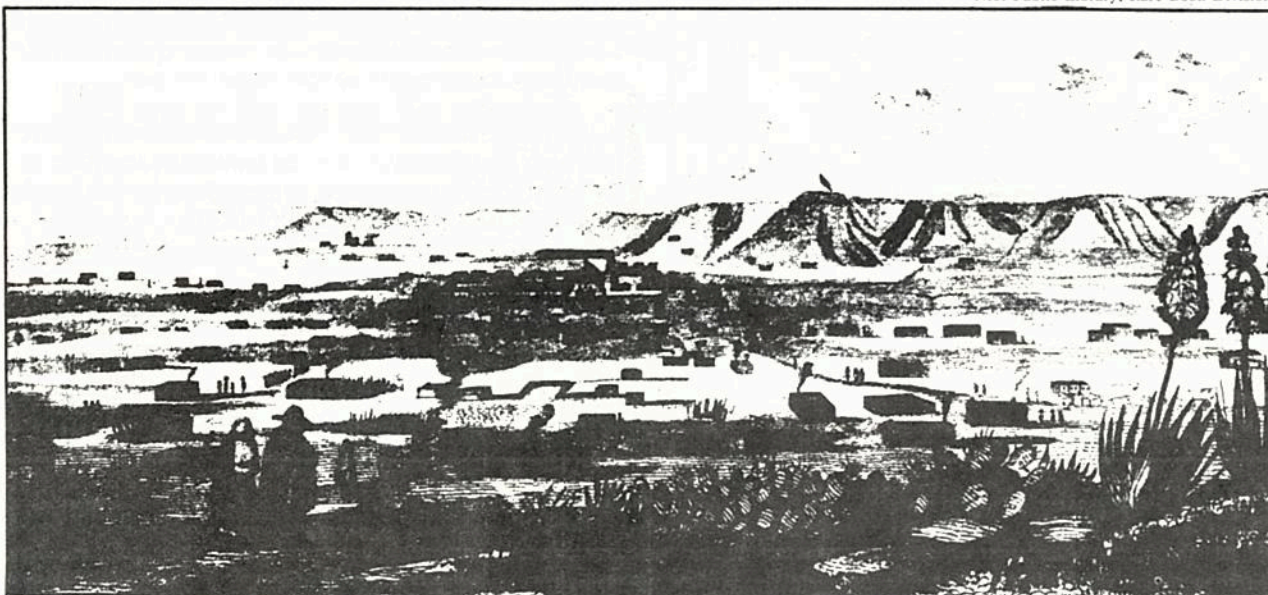
the Army Engineers explored the new territory and reported to the American people eager for information about the geographic features of the land, the resources, and the Indian tribes of the southwest.

Best known of the topogs, as the Topographical Engineers were characterized, was John C. Fremont, pathfinder, who set the pattern for the collection of this eagerly sought information with his three expeditions to the Southwest. Other engineers included William H. Emory with an astute assessment of the military, scientific, geographic, and economic nature between Bent's Fort, Colo. and the Pacific Ocean; and James H. Simpson, who found important archaeological sites in Chaco Canyon and Canyon de Chelly, the foundation of later studies of pueblo cultures.

In the 1850s the engineers concentrated on the locations of suitable routes of communications across the Southwest, harbor surveying and road building.

*"The American people are all too ignorant of the great services of these (Army) engineers who surveyed the West for no profit to themselves..."*

N.Y. Public Library, Rare Book Division



Santa Fe, little changed since the 1820s, was portrayed in this lithograph accompanying an 1848 report by Lt. Col. W.H. Emory. John Mix Stanley, who drew the original sketch, and Emory were in Kearny's Army that took the Mexican city in 1846.

Among them were John C. Macomb who laid out the basic road system in New Mexico; the inimitable George H. Derby who worked on road building, navigation improvements and flood control in California and Arizona; and Joseph C. Ives who established the limits of navigation on the Colorado River and led the first group of Americans to descend the Grand Canyon.

Beginning in 1853, survey parties under Army Engineers established the routes for the construction of transcontinental railroads along the 32nd, 35th, 38th and 48th parallels of latitude.

These engineers, through their reports, recorded for the first time information on geography, geology, archaeology, meteorology, mineralogy, botany and other facets that stimulated the settlement and development of this new American frontier. They provided the necessary link between the first explorations of the mountain men and the Americans who followed. For example, the dioramas of the Cumberland Gap and South Pass are incomplete without a depiction of the "Engineers' Frontier."

In the words of historian Samuel Flagg Bemis: "The 'Engineers' Frontier' of the fifties and sixties has long since passed by, after that of the fur trader and the prospector, but into deeper oblivion. The American people are all too ignorant of the great services of these engineers who surveyed the West for no profit to themselves, while at their side other men were making fortunes and contributing nothing to posterity."

But posterity commemorated their feats by naming rivers, mountains, valleys and places after them.

## Due for retirement?

OPM's National Independent Study Center has announced the availability of a home-study course titled "Preparation for Retirement."

The course is recommended for employees who will be eligible to retire within the next three years.

To enroll, contact Bobbie Hearn or Wayland Moore in the Training & Career Management Branch, Rm. 6661, or call ext. 4752.

*"A word isn't a bird — if it flies out, you'll never catch it again."* —Russian proverb



## Deaths in L.A. District family . . .

(From Page 9)

Jan. 11 she succumbed after a brief illness at Glendale Adventist Hospital. Services and burial were held in Portland, Ore., where she grew up. She was born in Couer D'Alene, Idaho.

Mary joined the Corps on July 1, 1940, in the nation's capital, and a year later she transferred to the Los Angeles District. For 25 years she was LADO's chief of disbursing, and just prior to retirement she worked in the military section of F&A.

Her home in Westchester, Los Angeles County, and occasional travels to U.S. and overseas capitals occupied most of her leisure time.

"Life for me is not dull," she told the *Newscastle* during an interview for her retirement story. "I have so many things I'd like to do!"

Mary Nelson had planned to visit England and see the Holy Land.

### Emma Moore

Emma E. Moore, for years a secretary in the Engineering Division,

died Jan. 20.

A service in her memory was held at Utter McKinley Mortuary in Highland Park, and burial was at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Glendale, according to Sylvana Decigaran, a friend and fellow LADO employee of the deceased.

Decigaran said Emma was cited by the Corps " . . . several times for outstanding performance of secretarial duties."

Moore lived in the Vermont-Wilshire area and had no survivors, Decigaran said.

### Gerald Kane

Gerald "Bud" Kane, father of Comptroller's Bob Kane and a native of Detroit, passed away Jan. 30 in Anaheim, Calif.

A service of memory for Bob's dad was at the Church of Our Fathers with interment at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Cypress, Calif., on the morning of Feb. 3.



Photo by Larry Hawthorne

Rear Admiral A. Bruce Beran tells Feb. 10 meeting of Society of American Military Engineers of program his 11th Coast Guard District has to interdict seaborne drug smuggling. Also in photo are Col. Fred Butler (right), L.A. Post president, and Lt. Col. Dan Waldo, post program chairman. March 22 meeting will be at Luminarias.

## Personnel move . .

(From Page 1)

to determine the status of District personnel programs and actions and the condition of files.

Based on their findings and meetings with District executives and managers, McGoye said CDPO will have a better feel for what changes need to be made.

The transition is planned to be accomplished in two phases. The first or "initial" phase has already begun. LAD employees displaced by the personnel office move are now being as-

sisted in finding other jobs through priority placement programs. If specific RIF notices are required, they would be issued by March 5.

The second phase, "transition phase," is expected to begin April 5 and will take about a month. As of April 5 the liaison office and CDPO Los Angeles District functional element are planned to be operational. During this phase the CDPO and the District will complete the transfer of files and CDPO will assume the personnel workload of the Los Angeles District.

"We're intent on making this work for you," McGoye said.

## 19 summers

## Read it all in the Newcastle

Read all about it in the *Newscastle*!

Editorially speaking, there is just no other paper that can report the news about L.A. District better than the *Newscastle*.

This paper was launched 19 years ago as a "No Name Newspaper" with a Page One story asking readers to give it a name.

Eleanor McCarthy, the paper's first editor who has been enjoying Corps retirement at home in Santa Barbara, said a fellow from the Engineering Division named Arthur Sjoberg won the paper-naming contest with his "Newscastle" entry.

From a one-page *multilith* printed back to back on blue sheet, the *Newscastle* has progressed to a 4-pager and then to a 6-pager just before it became an 8-page *offset* in 1978 to mark its 10th anniversary.

McCarthy, who edited the *Newscastle* for 10 years, recalls the hardships she had encountered in putting the paper out all by herself.

She also recalls Col. Robert J. Malley, LAD commander from Oct. 1, 1969 to Aug. 1, 1971, who she said always wanted the *Newscastle* circulated throughout the District on the 10th of each month.

Col. Fred Butler, the incumbent District commander, likes the *News castle* to hit the "newsstands" within the first week of the

month.

"In those days the District Public Affairs Office as it is called today was a 2-person staff and was known as Technical Liaison Office (TLO)," McCarthy said. "The old office name was quite a mystification to both employees and the public, but not the *Newscastle*."

Since its proclamation as a "general information newsletter" from Day One, the *Newscastle* has remained true to that commitment. —by Ely U. Orlas



U. Elmer Lescelius, a Corps retiree, keeps himself abreast of L.A. District matters.

## Corps journalists top Army-wide awards

Here's how *Army Times* reported the results of the 1986 Keith L. Ware Competition:

"Two of this year's three best Army journalists come from installations where the engineer is the ing of the castle.

"Sp4 Mary K. Hudson was honored as the Paul D. Savanuck Military Print Journalist of the Year for her performance during 1985-86 as editor of *The Castle*, the post newspaper at Ft. Belvoir, Va., home of the Engineer School.

"Leon J. Platenburg, the Civilian Print Journalist of the Year, is a public affairs writer for the Corps of Engineers' Vicksburg (Miss.) District.

"The third of the top winners . . . was Sgt. Charles Gill, a reporter and anchorman for the American Forces Network, Frankfurt, Germany. Gill was named the John T. Anderson Military Broadcast Journalist of the Year.

"The three received their Keith L. Ware awards Jan. 12 from Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh Jr. in a ceremony in his Pentagon office."

The above quotes were followed by eight paragraphs concerning the personal circumstances and duty assignments of the three winners.

It will be recalled that Doug Soleida, now with the Portland District PAO, won an honorable mention in the Army-wide journalism competition for his work (commentaries) with the L.A. District.



# NEWSCASTLE

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