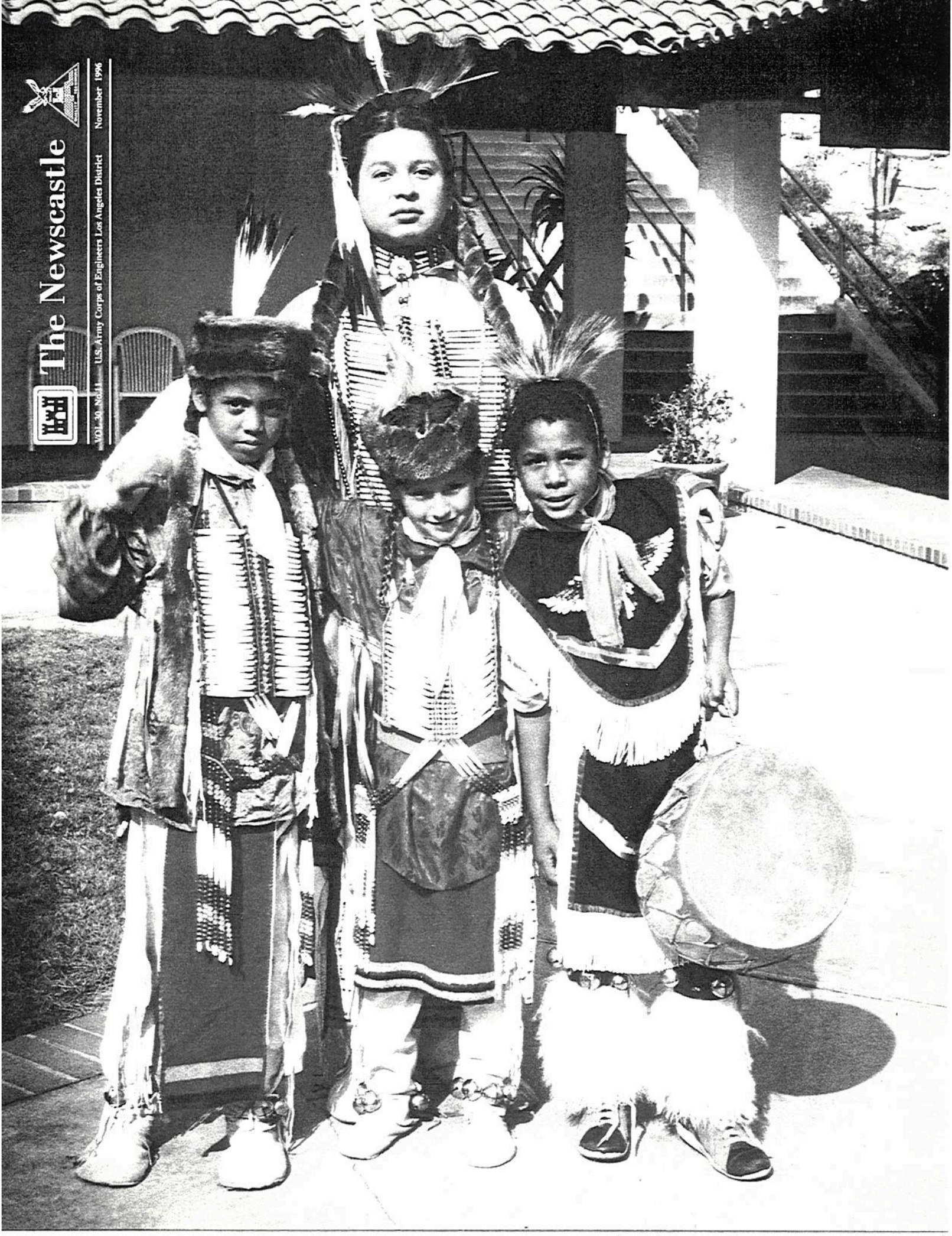




The Newcastle



VOL. 30, No. 11 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District November 1996



Eagle's View by LTC (P) Larry Davis, District Engineer

Can you believe that another month has passed by so quickly? Most of my 'schooling' is over and I can settle down getting to know our District. I have had a chance to visit some of our projects meeting some of our fine folks working 'out in the field.' I've had a chance to talk to some of our customers and I hear great things about what the Los Angeles District is doing for them. I heard more than once that "We are doing some magnificent work and have an excellent reputation." I am convinced that our successes are a direct reflection of the caliber of folks who make up our district family. I want you to know that your work does not go unnoticed and that you really are appreciated.



LTC. (P) Larry Davis

encourage you to find some time to learn a little more about another culture, share in their celebration, and strengthen our ties with all our employees.

This is also the month when we honor all those who have served our nation in the armed forces in times of peace and war. There are several dozen women and men in the district who have served (and a few still on active duty) in uniform. A few of our veterans served as far back as World War II. I was privileged to represent the U. S. Army at a Veterans Day Observance. As a veteran myself, it was a moving experience as veterans of five past wars gathered to share memories and pay tribute to our fallen comrades and to those still serving around the world.

On holidays such as Veterans Day and upcoming Thanksgiving, we gather with friends and family to share a good meal and perhaps a glass of spirits. Please take care. Have a designated driver to take you home, we want you here with us!!!!

One would have to be blind and deaf not to have heard about the Army's sexual harassment troubles at Aberdeen Proving Grounds and Fort Leonard Wood. You can read the Chief of Engineers' comments on the next page. I want you to know that I will not tolerate sexual harassment or discrimination in any form within the Los Angeles District. *I will take the strongest possible action within my authority, to deal with offenders.*

Finally, I know that there is growing discussion and concern over "District Restructuring". There are a lot of rumors, but I can tell you that no decisions have been made yet. We are working with SPD and our sister districts to look for ways to become more efficient, but equally important, to look out for the welfare of our employees. The Los Angeles District is a full participant in all discussions, and we have dedicated our best people to approach this on our behalf. Most importantly, we will keep you fully informed as we work toward a solution.

This is a great District!!! I love coming to work here with you every day!!!!

November is a busy month: full of challenges, as well as special occasions. One of our challenges was the Annual Command Assistance Visit from the South Pacific Division (SPD). Each year inspectors take a look at how we do business. They look over our processes and, while they do "grade" us, they also provide an additional set of eyes and they offer ideas on how we can do things better.

One of the things we don't do quite as well as I'd like, is give you some feedback because only a few of us get to attend the out-briefing. I can tell you that we did very well. In fact, they rated us in 17 areas covering all our offices and processes. According to SPD Deputy Commander COL David Peixotto's "informal" grading system, we received nine (9) A's, four (4) B's, and four (4) C's. It was an outstanding showing by all of you in the District. We should be receiving the complete report in the near future. When we do, each office will take their portion and make sure that all of our folks know exactly how they did, correct any deficiencies, and just keep looking for ways to provide your product better, faster, and less expensively without sacrificing quality!

As I said, November is a busy month.....It allows us to focus on our diversity as we celebrate Native American Month. We are fortunate to have nine (9) native Americans in our District Family. They bring a wealth of talent and cultural diversity to us. I've been told that the tour to the Native American Museum was a hit!! I

The Newcastle

Commander

Lt. Col. (P) Larry Davis

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Sexual harassment

Message to the Corps from the Chief

I am deeply disturbed by the implications of recent reports of sexual harassment within the Army. An incident of sexual harassment or discrimination -- *of any kind* -- is an intolerable compromise of the Army's fundamental values of integrity, loyalty, respect, trust and teamwork.

I expect every member of the Army Corps of Engineers to assume a very personal sense of responsibility for making and keeping every aspect of our work environment free of sexual harassment or discrimination in any of its forms. Behavior or attitudes that diminish any individual among us are an affront to all and an insult to the professionalism that is our hallmark.


JOE N. BALLARD
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

Lt. Gen. Joe N. Ballard

New Chief of Engineers brings fighting style to Corps

by Tom Ichniowski
Engineering News Record

WASHINGTON, D.C. — To outsiders, the Army's new Chief of Engineers, LTG Joe N. Ballard, is a relative unknown. Unlike recent chiefs, Ballard did not rise to the top through civil works posts, but from the Army's 'troop side.' His most recent assignment: chief of staff of the Army Training and Doctrine Command.

Nevertheless, "By no stretch of the imagination am I a stranger to the Corps," Ballard maintains. He is a registered civil engineer and commanded the Army's largest engineer brigade, the 18th, based in Karlsruhe, Germany, and the Engineer Center at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

"A change at the top doesn't necessarily mean a change in the organization," says the 54-year-old Ballard, who took over October 1 as the 49th Chief of Engineers. He says his focus will be "on the customer and a quality product." I think that the Corps should be for the nation, the engineering organization of first choice."

Ballard is "a very fine officer with a magnificent reputation in the Army," says Lt. Gen. Henry J. Hatch, USA Retired, chief from 1988 to 1992. Adds H. Martin Lancaster, assistant Army secretary for civil works: "He has two great strengths. One is the respect that he enjoys among the 'war-fighter' side of the Army. The Corps has in the past been seen by some as separate and apart from the war-fighter side. That

has not always benefited us in the Pentagon and...in Congress." His other big plus "is his reputation for being a really strong, take-charge kind of leader," Lancaster says.

"I believe in the words of Sun-Tzu (Chinese warrior philosopher), 'When in charge, take charge,'" says Ballard.

But "I'm not the type to get down into the weeds and micromanage....So I take counsel rather well and I listen. But, I will make a decision!"

One decision he faces now is how to redraw Corps divisions. In the 1997 appropriations act, Congress gave the Corps until the end of November to issue a plan to shrink from 11 divisions to between six and eight. Lawmakers prohibited the closing of any districts.

Ballard, the son of a Baptist minister, grew up in Oakdale, La. In 1965, he earned an electrical engineering degree from Southern University in Baton Rouge. He was in the Reserve Officers Training Corps and soon after graduation was commissioned and sent to Vietnam, where he served four tours. After five years, Ballard left the service to be a middle manager at Illinois Bell. But after a few months, the Army asked Ballard to return. The incentive: an offer to put him through graduate school. He has been in the Army every since.

As Ballard begins his new job, he will benefit from new authority to team with developers to build military housing faster. The item is a priority within the Pentagon. Civil works construction won a 34% hike for 1997. (Reprinted with permission. Copyright McGraw-Hill Companies 1996.)



LTG Joe N. Ballard

Army steps up fight against sexual harassment

Secretary of the Army Togo D. West, Jr., increased the service's investigation into charges of sexual harassment of women soldiers, forming a special panel to look at the Army overall and directing the Inspector General to focus on training activities.

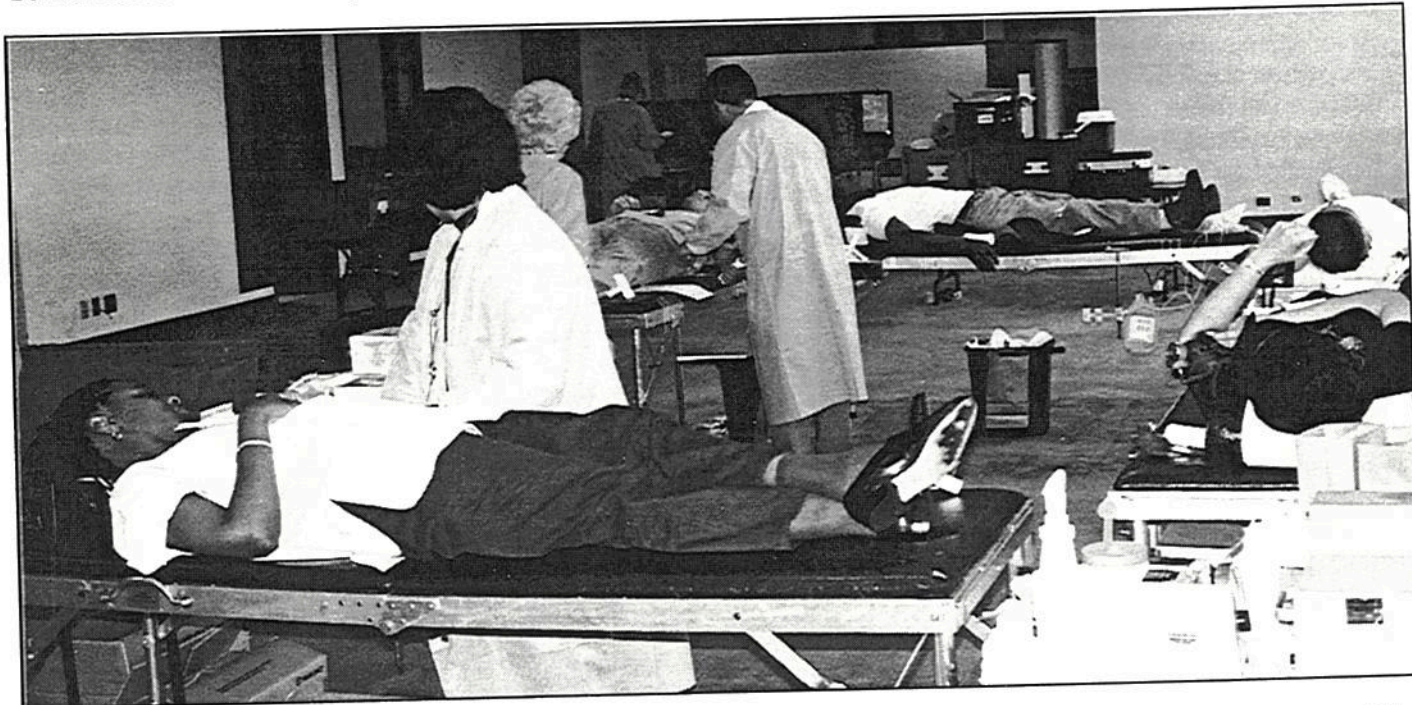
West named a nine-member panel of high-ranking military and civilian men and women to conduct a comprehensive review of existing Army sexual harassment policies and processes. He told the Army IG to review and assess policies and procedures at basic and advanced individual training organizations and units – including Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. where the charges first surfaced – and all training activities.

"The Army will not tolerate sexual harassment," the secretary said. "It degrades mission readiness by devastating our ability to work effectively as a team. Sexual misconduct is incompatible with our

traditional values of professionalism, equal opportunity and respect for human dignity, to which every soldier must adhere."

The panel's goal is to eradicate sexual harassment in the Army. It will investigate and recommend changes to improve the human relations environment in which soldiers, male and female, live and work.

"I am particularly concerned about behaviors that fail to acknowledge they dignity and respect to which every soldier is entitled," West said in a memo to retired Army Maj. Gen. Richard S. Siegfried, the man he appointed to head the Senior Review Panel. "The chief of staff and I believe that the panel's review must include consideration of the views, opinions and experiences of our soldiers." He authorized Siegfried to conduct group sessions, personal interviews, surveys and similar efforts "to learn what soldiers thin about these issues." (*Army Public Affairs*)



Vampires visit District by daylight.... The American Red Cross Bloodmobile came to district headquarters at 911 Wilshire for its semi-annual drive Nov. 20 and came away with 64 Christmas presents - 64 pints (8 gallons) of blood donated by Corps people and staff members of other offices in the building. These "presents" could well save some people's lives someday. The amount topped the last drive's figure of 49 pints (about 6 gallons), which had a potential of saving nearly 200 lives. The November total of 64 pints would have been 70, but six volunteers were turned away - temporarily - because their current physical states, such as having colds or too-recent immunizations, prevented them from donating that day. They were "deferred," as the Red Cross termed it, until a later time.

District celebrates Native American Heritage Month

Story and photos by Mona Lee Goss

District Team members in L.A. commemorated Native American Heritage month with a varied program of activities, Nov. 13.

The event was held in the Southwest Museum, near downtown Los Angeles. It began with an introduction by Native American Committee Manager, Nate Govan and welcoming remarks by Lt. Col. Wylie K Bearup, deputy district engineer.

Bearup introduced the keynote speaker, Larry Myer, California state executive director of Native American Affairs and a chief of northern California Pomo tribe. Myer spoke about the problems facing Native Americans in California. Even though they have the third largest Native American population, it consists of many small tribes and lacks the collective political impact larger tribes have, according to Myer. He also spoke about the racial discrimination and ethnic difficulties experienced by Native Americans and their continuing struggle to retain their cultural heritage. His speech drew many questions and comments from audience members.

Myer's presentation was followed with a demonstration of Native American dance by members of the Prayer House Outreach 2000. The group performs shows with inter-tribal dancing and singing to spread cultural awareness and to preserve an important part of their native heritage.

Ending the formal program, EEO officer, Deborah Wallace, gave closing comments and presented Gilbert M. Ruiz, co-chair of the Native American Committee with an on-the-spot award for his efforts in organizing the event.

All participants then had the opportunity to tour the Southwest museum before returning to District headquarters. The Museum houses Native American artifacts from Alaska to South America and has one of the largest collection of baskets in the U.S.

(ED.NOTE: Cover photo by Goss)



Jackie Dixon (Dine), Prayer House Outreach 2000 dance member, demonstrates the "Our Father" in Native American sign language at the ceremony.

District Historian recalls a much different experience at the Southwest Museum

by Dr. Anthony Turhollow

The recent visit to the southwest Indian Museum, brought recollections of the visit I paid to the museum many years ago. During the previous visit one parked the car on a city street at the base of the hill on which the Southwest Museum sits, took an elevator to the main floor, and entered a rather dismal place.

The museum had a dark, drab appearance, the Indian artifacts, though interesting, were poorly displayed.

However, the recent visit provided a pleasant contrast.

A road constructed probably in the 1980s, leads to a parking lot located alongside the museum building. The lot is reserved for vehicles bringing groups of visitors, primarily children, to the museum.

The exhibits are carefully displayed, properly lighted, and are very educational. It is clear that the trustees are determined to restore the museum to its proper place in metropolitan Los Angeles, particularly as an interesting and enjoyable educational experience.



District employees enjoy festivities at the Southwest Museum.



HISPANIC COMMITTEE HONORS.....*Danny Carrasco, left in both photos, Hispanic Employment Program Manager, presents certificates of recognition for outstanding contributions in the advancement of Hispanics in the Los Angeles District to Steve Temmel, chief, Office of Counsel and Patricia Delgado, executive assistant.*

Temmel was honored as a manager who provides his staff the opportunity to grow within the Corps overall mission by consistently challenging them with new work assignments increasing their responsibility and value. He is a role model for managers and



employees through his dedication to duty and his dedication to the success of his employees.

Delgado was honored for being a role model. While employed in Human Resources she provided many job opportunities for young Hispanic students by attending job fairs and recruiting at colleges. She provide guidance, encouragement, career and educational counseling to employees in all fields. As the Executive Assistant to the District Engineer, she continues to be an example of what can be accomplished through hard work and dedication to duty. (Photos by Fred-Otto Egeler)

Corps buys land for FDA mega-lab in Irvine

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has acquired from the University of California in Irvine land for its planned mega-laboratory. Acting as FDA's land-acquisition agent, the Army Corps of Engineers turned over a government check for \$3,622,900 to purchase 10 acres of university land along Fairchild Road. The Real Estate Division of the Corps' Los Angeles District made the purchase with funds from the FDA for open space on the north campus of UCI.

The FDA plans to build an approximately 130,000-square-foot mega-lab and 250-vehicle parking lot, while still leaving some open space.

It would be one of five planned total-capability laboratory facilities in the United States, and consolidate FDA and State of California activities in downtown Los Angeles, San Pedro and an adjacent site in Irvine. While the lab's role would be testing and analysis, part of the facility could be used for educational and training purposes.

Before the Corps of Engineers bought the land, it held two meetings at UCI. The public was invited to attend,

learn about the proposal and make comments, voice opinions and register complaints. No opposition to the project was raised by the public, business, other federal, state and local government agencies, or the faculty or students of UCI.

FEHB Open Season ends Dec. 9

The Federal Employee Health Benefits season is now open, offering all eligible federal workers a chance to begin, end or modify health insurance coverage, or to change insurers. But if you're going to make a change, don't wait too long – open season ends Dec. 9.

To help employees gain information about health insurance programs and providers, Human Resources invited companies to come to District Headquarters Nov. 21 to meet employees at a one-day Health Fair.

Employees, came, asked questions, talked to company representatives, and left with a lot of information to help them in making their decisions.



Happy New Year! While most of the world is waiting for a New Year's party on Dec. 31st, Contracting Division staffers celebrated their "New Fiscal Year" with a Pizza Party. Happy FY '97!!!!

Trick or Treat

Halloween glitches eat Newscastle copy

THE NEWSROOM—Yes, readers there were ghosts, gremlins and goblins about during the production of the October issue of your *Newscastle*. They seemed to have gobbled the last lines of captions and some of the stories.

After a week of nightmares (not on Elm Street, but Brindisi and Chamunt) we finally figured it out. We sat down at our computers and compared what was on the dummies and the master we sent out for repo. (By the way, we thought it was repo's fault, 'cause our computer screens and dummies were exactly alike. We apologize for our mean thoughts.)

Then we looked at the masters we sent to repo. **THERE WERE THE ERRORS** as bold as could be!!!!

The lines we thought were on the masters were gone.

The *Newscastle* was formatted for a HP Laserjet II (300 dpi) and we printed the dummies (page paste-ups for you lay persons (PC)) out, taped the xerox copies of photos to them and then because we wanted 'super' masters printed it out on a HP 4MP.

Well we found that the gremlins were in the 4MP. It seems that when we printed them out on it, that the printer reformatted the pages. We didn't look closely at the masters, because they looked like what had printed out on the HP II. As we used to say in the Nam, 'Sorry, about that!!!!'

Thanks for all your calls and E-mail. At least we know quite a few team members read it from cover to cover. You can bet that we'll look harder at the masters from now on.

Dr. 'E'

This Banquet Table Will Benefit More Than Your Waistline

By Mona Lee Goss

L.A. District Army Corps of Engineers will sponsor a ten-person table at the 13th Annual Awards and Installation Banquet for student chapters of professional engineering organizations, at California State University, Los Angeles, Dec. 13.

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), all operate under the umbrella of the MESA (Mathematical, Engineering, Science Achievement) Program at the University.

MESA's main purpose for holding the yearly event is to foster better relationships between local companies and engineering groups on campus.

The banquet also gives engineering and computer science students the opportunity to learn more about the types of work and job opportunities available at different companies.

Besides installation of new officers, MESA will recognize corporate supporters of the its program and the efforts of individual students towards achieving their respective engineering chapter goals.

One of the students who is part of the MESA program in both SHPE and SWE, is Elizabeth Castillo, daughter of Petra Castillo, IMO. She is currently a freshman studying to be an engineer because of her experiences working at the Corps. She initially suggested to the Corps that they sponsor a table for the benefit.

The banquet is open to all interested guests. Individual tickets are \$25 if you are not attending as part of a sponsoring organization. To make a reservation or for more information, call the MESA office at (213) 343-4527. For information on the District-sponsored table reservations, contact Daniel Carrasco, at (213) 452-3230.

In Memorium

Demetrio Quismorio

Raymond Fluhrer, a 1993 retiree from the Real Estate Branch in Phoenix, Az., passed away Oct. 13.

MIA recovery adventure in Vietnam

District archeologist leads search team

by Steve Dibble

BAO SON VILLAGE, LUC NAM DISTRICT, HA BAC PROVINCE, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM—I spent this summer as a team leader for the U. S. Army Central Identification Lab out of Hawaii (CILHI). My team was sent to this little village to recover the remains from an unaccounted for pilot lost as a result of the Vietnam war. (This program of recovery was conducted by Joint Task Force-Full Accounting (JTF-FA) and CILHI.) My participation was facilitated by the St. Louis District which is responsible for augmenting the staff of CILHI.

I flew to Hawaii on August 18th and spent the first week at CILHI preparing for the trip by reading previous mission reports and by consulting with their permanent staff of anthropologists/archeologists. Because of storms off the coast of Vietnam that week my original primary cases were canceled. As the week went on I was given several different cases to review as the weather situation changed. On Friday the case for my team was finalized.

On the 24th the 42nd Joint Field Activity (JFA) took off from Hickam Air Force Base in a C-141. The 42nd JFA consisted of five different teams that were assigned to five different locations in North Vietnam. Each team consisted of an archeologist, and a team of military personnel including a captain, NCOIC, medic, photographer, surveyor, communications specialist, linguist, explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) technician, and mortuary affairs specialists. We also had a life support technician who was an expert in identifying what in the wreckage was portions of the aircraft: the ejection seat and/or the pilots flight suit and survival equipment.

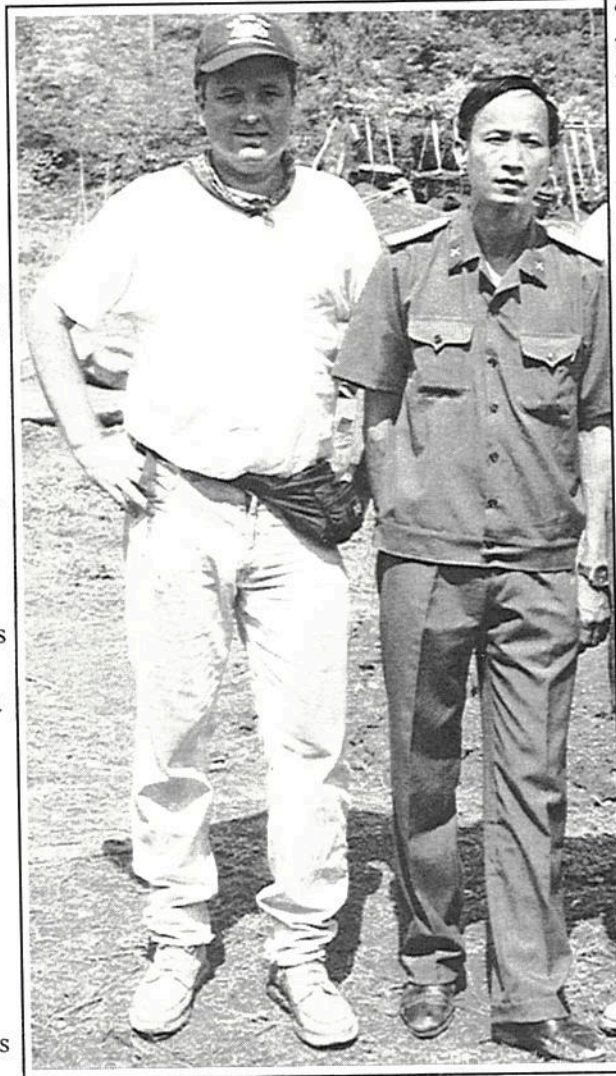
It was a long flight from Hawaii and we were all tired when we landed at Utapao Airbase in Thailand. From there we made final preparations for the trip into Vietnam, and August 30th we flew into Hanoi on a C-130.

Before I went to Vietnam I had expected to encounter a cold hard communist country. When we arrived in Hanoi I at first witnessed what I had expected. A group of Vietnamese military personnel circled the aircraft. After a few minutes two busses pulled up to take us into the terminal.

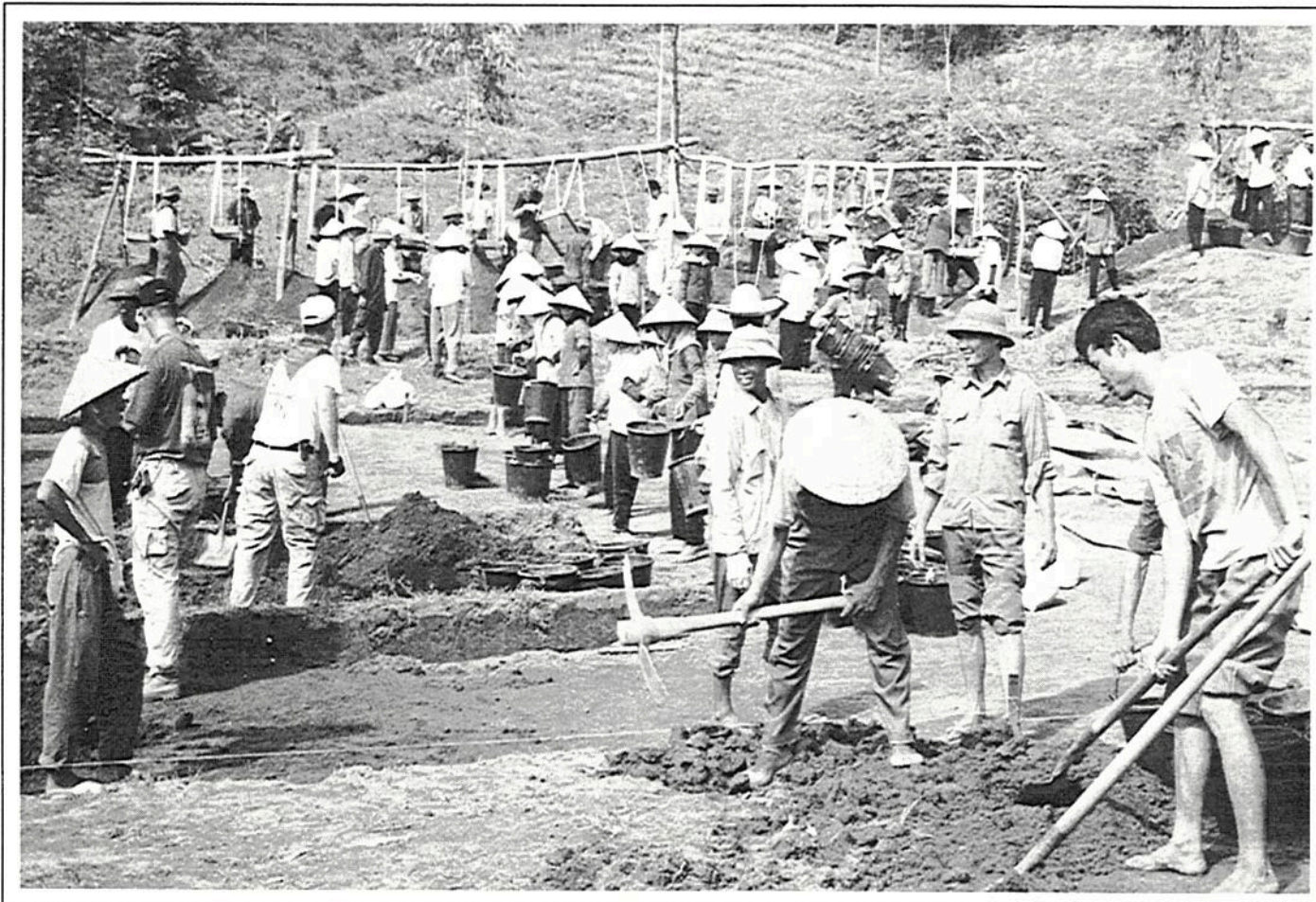
To my surprise the busses read "Welcome to Hanoi", and in bigger letters the buses read "PEPSI" on their sides.

After going through customs each team went their separate ways. My team loaded our equipment into trucks and took off for the town of Bac Giang in Ha Bac Province where we would be lodged. Bac Giang is about 60 kilometers northeast of Hanoi. Having never done any foreign travel (I once spent a night in Mexicali, but I think that doesn't count), I was amazed at every-thing I saw driving down the highway into Bac Giang. In Bac Giang we checked into the flea bag hotel which would be my home for the next month. At least the place had air conditioning and a TV. We were told not to drink, or brush our teeth with the water at the hotel (But we did shower.) We were provided bottled water and each of us had brought our own supply of food.

The case our team worked on involved the 2 December 1966 crash of an F4B returning from a combat mission over North Vietnam. The aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft gunfire



Steve Dibble and one of the 'guides' from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the excavation site near Bao Son Village.

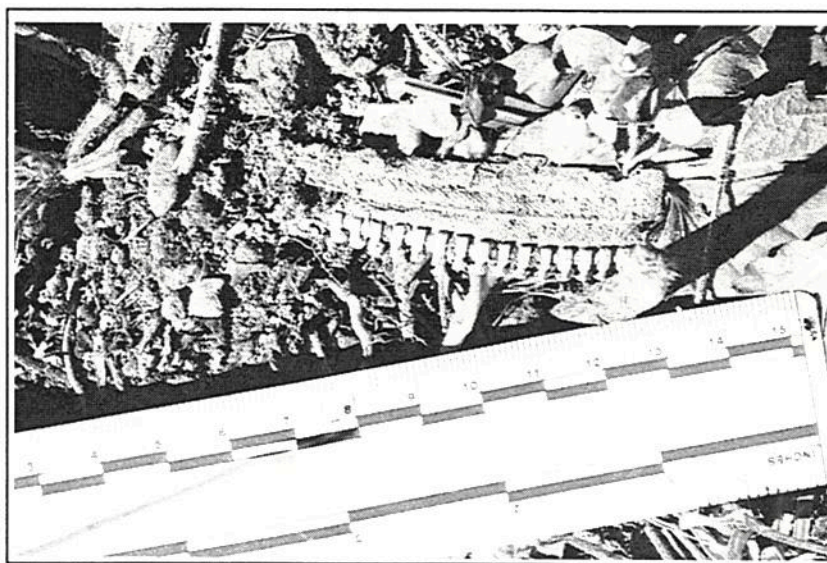


and exploded. It broke into two pieces. The radar intercept officer (the backseat guy) successfully ejected, was captured, and subsequently released during Operation Homecoming in 1973. The status of the pilot was not known at the time of the incident. The location of the crash was in the village of Bao Son which was northeast of Bac Giang. Getting to the site took almost an hour.

detector. We also examined the area for any other surface indications of the crash, and burial. Anything we found by metal detector or surface search was pin flagged. In the area that the farmer had indicated was the general area for the burial location we found two zipper fragments (see photo) which were portions of a flight suit.

The first day on the site I interviewed a 73 year old farmer who said he had witnessed the crash. He pointed out the area where the aircraft had crashed, and where the pilot had been buried. According to this witness, the villagers buried the remains of pilot in the side of a small hill about a meter deep. A few days later the Chinese came and removed the wreckage from the site. They exhumed the remains of the pilot, took photographs, and then reburied the pilot in a shallow grave. Dogs later came along and dug up the body spreading the remains around.

Working on the information provided by the witness we cleared the vegetation in preparation for the excavation. It was cleared using local Vietnamese villagers. After it was cleared our EOD technician went over the area with a metal



Zipper fragment found at the crash/excavation site.

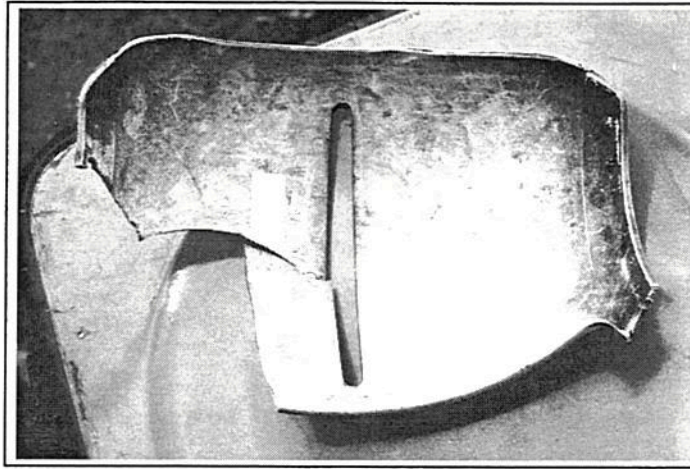
With all this information I set the datum (The point from which all our measurements were taken for mapping purposes) and chose an area to grid off for excavation. The next day the excavation began with a team of fifty local villagers using shovels, picks, and trowels. All the material was passed by bucket brigade to the sifting area. The life support tech and I examined everything that was found

The first day of excavation we encountered additional small pieces of pilot related materials. I was very pleased to find these materials right off because I knew that we had found the right area and I was very confident that we would account for the pilot. As the days progressed we encountered more and more of pilot related material. We had found bone fragments and teeth by the last day of the excavation. Other items included zipper pulls and zipper pieces, flight suit cloth, a portion of a survival knife, three .38 caliber bullets fragments, snaps, boot eyelets, clips, a comb piece, an Ace type bandage clip, a cigarette lighter portion and other items.

From what we found in this excavation the life support technician and I decided that at least one person was in the aircraft at the time of the crash. In addition, the evidence is very consistent with the statements of the witness as to what happened after the crash.

We returned to Hanoi where all five teams reunited and were flown into Bangkok to debrief. After the debriefing we flew back to Hawaii where I spent a week there writing a report which will be ultimately be given to the family.

During our stay in Vietnam the people were very friendly. In the town of Bac Giang the people were very friendly. As we walked down the street after work we



A villager brought us a portion of a flight helmet his wife found on the site.

would have to be constantly saying hello to people. It seemed that everybody knew that we were Americans, and they at least knew to say hello. This area of Vietnam gets almost no tourists so were quite an oddity.

The people of the village of Bao Son were even friendlier. Every day on the drive in and out of the work site we were met with people who would come out and wave to us. The kids were especially happy to see us. For as long as we were there this friendly treatment never stopped.

I was also very surprised at the amount of capitalism, and American culture in Vietnam. It seemed like everybody had a little store, or a bicycle shop, or some kind of business. There was American cigarettes, Pepsi, Coke, etc. everywhere. Almost every night on TV I could watch the show "Little House on the Prairie". One night they showed the movie "Ace Ventura--When Nature Calls".



The kids from Bao Son Village were very shy at first and were always watching what we were doing from a distance.

Flood control in Southern California and national defense during WWII

by Dr. Anthony Turhollow, District Historian

Did you know that out of the crisis in world affairs that culminated in World War II there arose a new aspect of flood control: its importance to national defense. Colonel Warren T. Hannum, Division Engineer, South Pacific Division, presented this point of view at the meeting of the National Resources Committee in Los Angeles on 1 March 1941. Although he carefully noted that provision for the safety and the security of the millions of people living and working in southern California was the primary reason for the involvement of the Federal Government in controlling destructive floods in the coastal basins of southern California, he also added that where floods interfered with national defense, corrective measures had to be taken.

Under authorization of the Flood Control Act of 1936 which established flood control as a proper activity for the Federal Government the Los Angeles District in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (organized in 1915) formulated a general plan for flood control of the Los Angeles River in December 1936. In February 1938 the District submitted a general plan for the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers. These plans became the basis for the Los Angeles County Drainage Area project (LACDA). While flood control problems existed throughout southern California, the emphasis would be on three population centers where national defense industries were concentrated: Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties.

Further impetus to the development of the flood control program for the area came from the flood of 2 March 1938 which devastated southern California. In Los Angeles County the flood caused more than \$40 million dollars in damage

and took a toll of 49 lives. In spite of complete breakdown of rail, telephone, highway, and mail services for the City of Los Angeles, the Mayor on emergency national radio hook-up, the only available means of communication, reassured the world that: "The sun is shining over southern California today and . . . Los Angeles is still smiling."

Col. Hannum pointed out that expenditures for flood control were still necessary in addition to the huge sums already spent. The floods against which protection had to be provided were caused by the same conditions which made southern California ideally situated topographically and climatically for national defense industries. In 1938 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) sent Harry Hopkins, his trusted advisor, to determine how quickly aircraft factories in California could convert to the production of warplanes, for the President felt certain that war was coming to America and that air power was a key to victory. Taking advantage of the belief of the hardcore of the isolationists in Fortress America, FDR asked for a billion-dollar "two-ocean" Navy which Congress authorized in 1938. To the President non-military activities of the War Department, including the Army Corps of Engineers, had to give way to the needs of national defense.

With this shift from emphasis on civil works to military project, the Corps required new assignments or faced drastic reductions in personnel and the dismantling of "an existing, widely extended field organization, fully equipped, and highly trained and experienced in all types of construction," and whose continued existence was vital to national defense. Thus in 1940 began the process of shifting military construc-

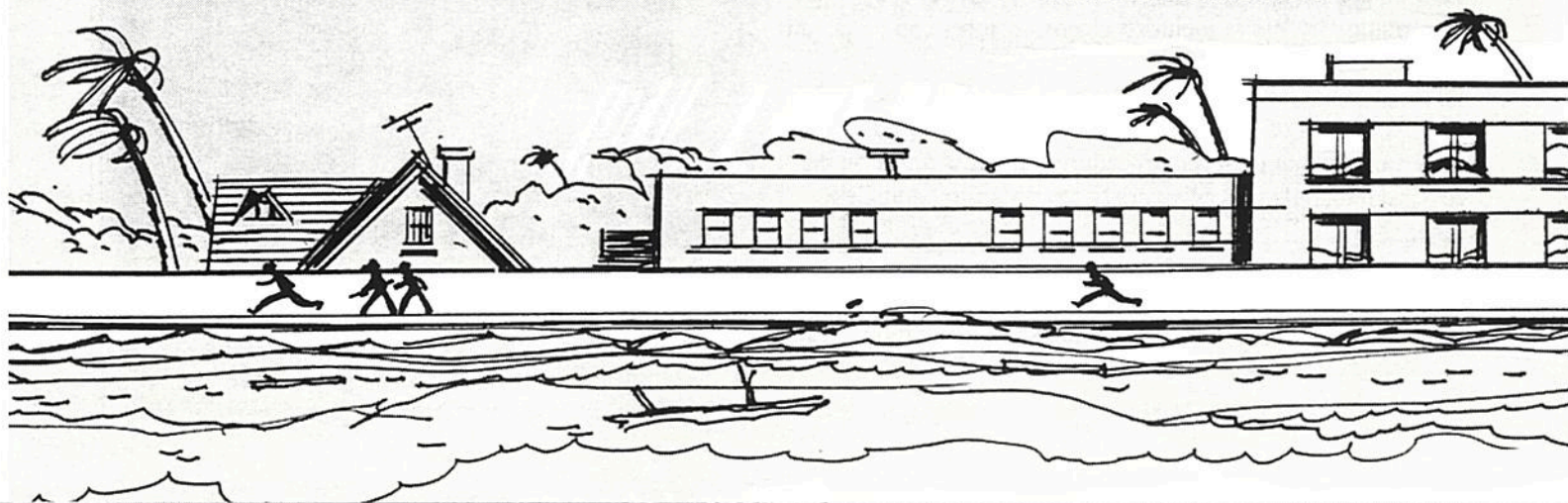
tion to the Corps. In addition, Congress enlarged the Corps' role in the interest of national defense.

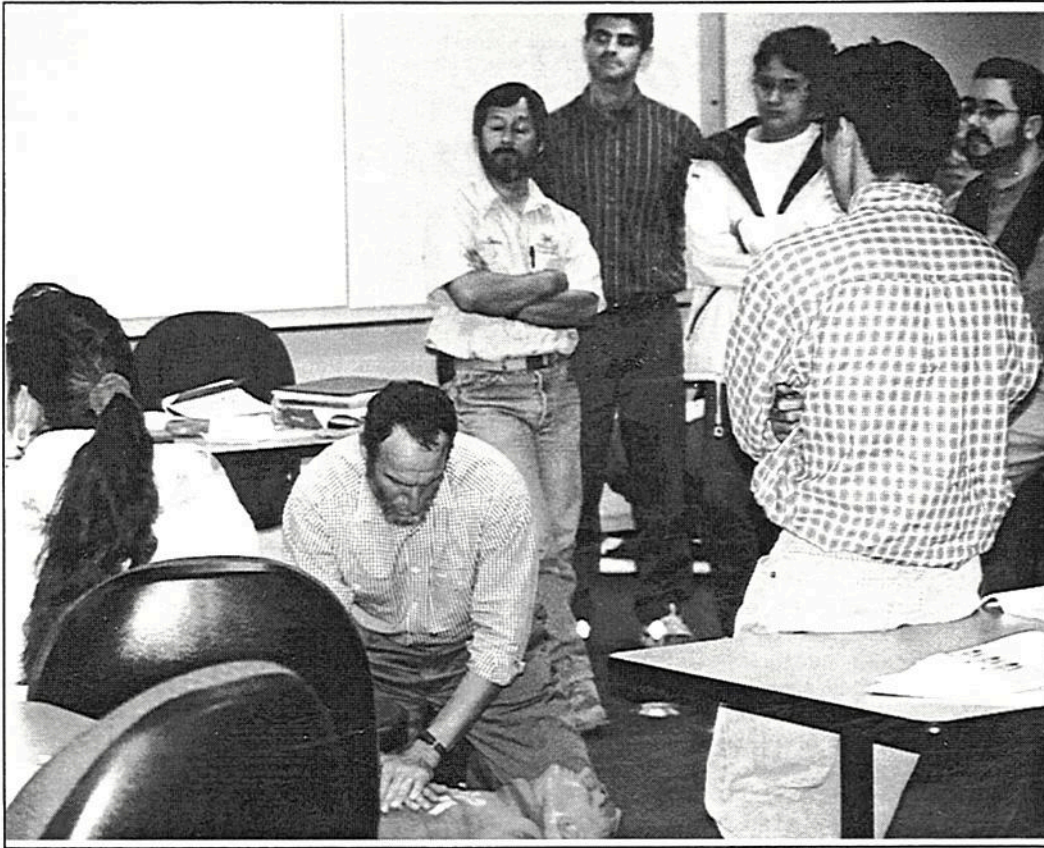
To Col. Hannum the significance which national defense assumed by 1941 increased justification for flood protection in southern California. He pointed out that: Because of its many airports, airplane factories, and related defense activities, Los Angeles County occupies a position of particular prominence."

While conceding that the relation of flood control to national defense in the Santa Ana Basin, the San Diego area, and other streams in the southern coastal basins was less in extent and magnitude than in the Los Angeles and San Gabriel River basins, nevertheless the District and local officials were giving careful consideration to those defense activities in those basins which would suffer impairment from floods.

By the end of 1941 the District had completed Hansen and Sepulveda Dams for LACDA, and Prado Dam for Santa Ana River Project, as well as submitting preliminary reports and surveys for the San Diego River and other southern coastal streams.

During World War II, these flood control projects proved their value by providing vital protection for major defense industries, as well as for important military and naval establishments in southern California. For example, in the spring of 1943 the value of flood control improvements in the Los Angeles River Basin was demonstrated. This while the uncontrolled 1938 flood caused heavy loss of life and severe property damage in Los Angeles County, the 1943 flood was controlled by the completed portions of LACDA which probably saved many lives and made possible the uninterrupted operation of war plants in the county, proving that civil works were vital to national defense.





Al Rosen practices on 'Bob', as other LAD employees wait to hone their newly acquired skills. Thirty-two employees took the course from Mel Weiss, Mesa (AZ) Project Office, who is a certified CPR Instructor.

CPR Training saves lives

Story by Mel Kirkland Photos by Fred-Otto Egeler

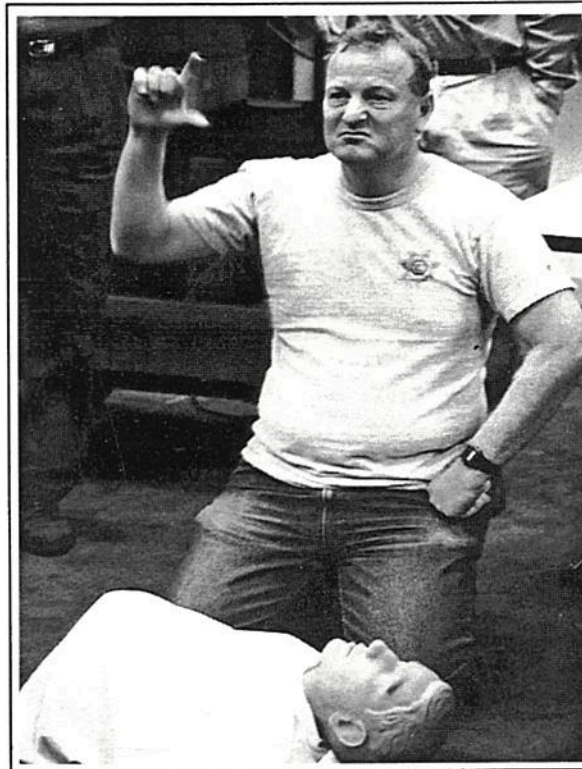
No one plans to get into an accident, choke on an object or get into trouble in deep water. Unfortunately - these accidents happen without notice. Fortunately - when they do - there are now a few more Corp's friends and coworkers who can help out!

At the end of October, 32 District team members were trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), choking, and basic first aid.

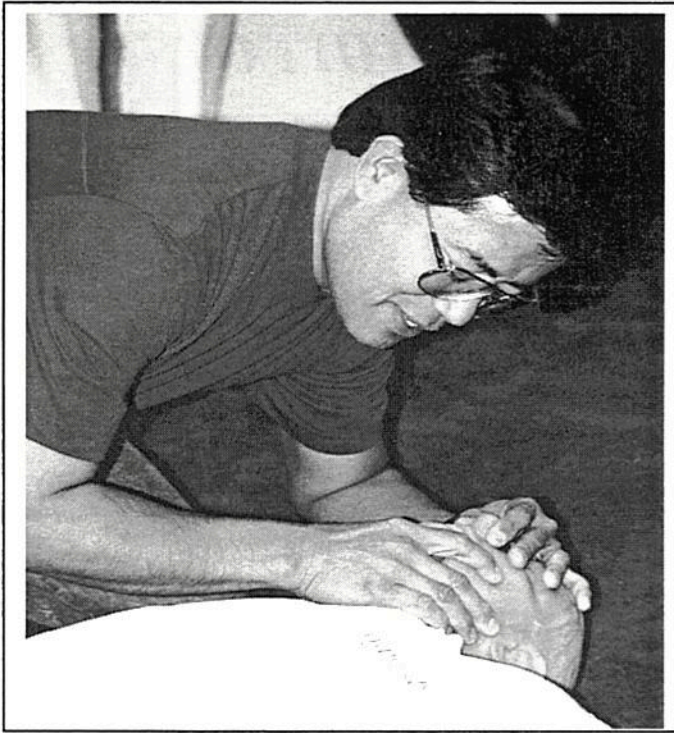
Mel Weiss, certified instructor and construction representative in the Arizona Area Office, taught the day-long course at District headquarters. Assisted by Mel Kirkland, Fit-To-Win coordinator and part of the Safety Office, the presentation by Weiss included videos, lectures and hands-on demonstrations.

At the end of the day, participants were required to show a basic understanding of the procedures and pass a test on the covered materials to receive credit towards First Aid/CPR certification.

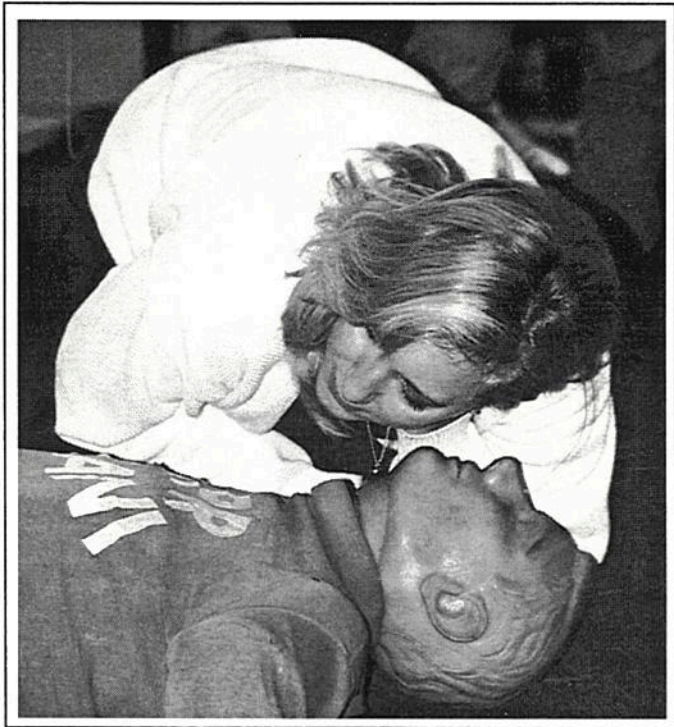
In their training, Corp's members learned some of the basic definitions, facts and statistics compiled by the National Safety



"Don't press more than this much, or you might hurt the victim," Mel Weiss told students during CPR training



While someone is calling 911 begin CPR by first clearing the airway like Joe Aguilar is doing above. Then check for breathing like Joann Pizsker below before beginning CPR.



Council (NSC). Also, they were able to actually practice the CPR techniques on specially-made dummies.

National Safety Council Facts

Team members learned that, according to NSC, injuries are the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults. First Aid is defined by NSC as the immediate care given to an injured or suddenly ill person. Because of the size and magnitude of the injury problem, everyone can expect, sooner or later, to be present when an injury or sudden illness strikes.

Some of the other injury facts District team members learned were:

- Each year more than 140,00 Americans die from injuries (including accidents, suicides, and homicides), and one person in three suffers a non-fatal injury
- There are 3,000 choking deaths yearly
- Injury is the fourth leading cause of death among Americans (One is heart disease, two - cancer and three - stroke)
- One out of every eight hospital beds is occupied by an injured patient.

CPR Defined

Besides the definitions and facts about injuries in general, District participants received similar information on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). It is the combining of rescue breathing (mouth-to-mouth) and external chest compression. Cardio refers to the heart and pulmonary refers to the lungs. Resuscitation means to revive.

Proper and prompt CPR serves as a holding action by providing oxygen to the brain and heart until advanced cardiac life support can be provided, according to training by Kirkland and Weiss.

“CPR and first aid, if properly applied, may mean the difference between life and death, rapid recovery and long hospitalization, or temporary disability and permanent injury,” said Kirkland. “The outcome of such misfortune frequently depends not only on the severity of the illness, but on the first aid rendered.”

The next time Corps team members, have a chance to use their newly acquired first aid and CPR skills, the victims probably won't be made of plastic. Planning on their part now to become trained in these areas will guard against unplanned death and injury for accident victims in the future.

Headquarters Halloween horrors



*and to think
that you let
your children
sit on this guy's
lap and tell
them what they
want for
Christmas!!!*



"Take me back to that little grass shack....."



*The Great
Pumpkin
Lives!!!!!!!*



*Would you
believe that I'm
allergic to
feathers?*



Y—M—C—A—



*Nobody, but,
nobody, has
more fun than
we do!!!*



*Wonderful
wicked
Witches
wowed
watchers*

Photos by Friedrich



This Year's Budget passes Congressional hurdle

by Mona Lee Goss

The dust has finally cleared on the annual budget appropriations review and amounts for 1997 project funding have been approved.

The fiscal year 1997 total budget amount is \$413,721,900, including project and overhead costs. Executing the entire 1997 budgeted program will mean an increase of \$37,901,200 over last year's expenditures.

When comparing the 1997 budget to actual 1996 expenditures, the District expects an increase in the total dollars for Civil Programs of approximately \$12,423,400. Most of this increase is expected to be in direct funded civil

"Our main concerns now are execution and decreasing our overhead expenses...thereby reducing the Districts General and Administrative and Departmental Overhead Rates."

- Earl Allen, District Budget Officer

construction general projects, according to District Budget Officer Earl Allen.

He stated that if the 1997 budget is fully executed, it reverses last year's decrease in actual expenditures compared to 1995 and includes a small increase. Actual expenditures for fiscal year 1996 were \$375,820,700 - a reduction of \$27,356,600 when compared to expenditures in fiscal year 1995.

"Our main concerns now are execution and decreasing

our overhead expenses and thereby reducing the District's General and Administrative and Departmental Overhead Rates. The key to doing this is to increase the Direct Labor base by charging more labor direct to projects and to reduce the actual indirect expenses," said Allen. "If all office elements contribute to this effort we can decrease our costs of doing business and remain competitive in today's environment."

Although civil construction general projects have increased, military programs show an opposite trend. While some military project work will increase, it will be offset by a decrease in other military work, resulting in an overall net decrease of approximately \$18,713,300.

Besides continuing projects, the fiscal year 1997 budget includes new projects and programs. We are budgeting for an increase in Military Reimbursable Programs and Civil Reimbursable Works for Others Program with projects for the Bureau of Prisons, Immigration and Naturalization Services and the Federal Aviation Administration as well as others. Some of the major areas of decrease are in Military Direct Programs such as: Operation & Maintenance Army, Military Construction Air Force, and Military Construction Air Force Family Housing. Air Force work in fiscal year 1997 should be less than we executed in fiscal year 1996.

In another comparison of the 1997 to 1996 budget, the late passage of the federal budget in fiscal year 1996 resulted in less execution of the military programs. This year the federal budget was passed prior to the beginning of the fiscal year and actual funding should be received soon. Barring any major problems, the District should be able to execute our total program, according to Allen.

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