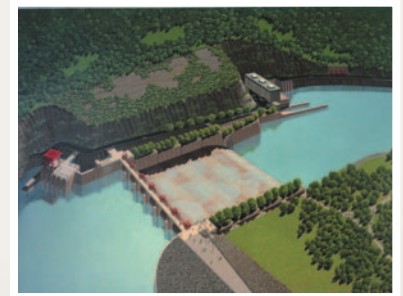




GENERAL EDGAR JADWIN DAM



FRANCIS E. WALTER DAM



ARTISTIC RENDERING OF TOCKS ISLAND DAM



1959 Nike missile sites are constructed in a ring around Philadelphia to act as a final line of defense against nuclear attack.

1959 Dyberry Dam, a “dry dam” on the Lackawaxen River in northeastern Pa., opens as the first Corps dam in the Philadelphia District. It is later renamed GENERAL EDGAR JADWIN DAM for a native of nearby Honesdale who served as Chief of Engineers in the 1920s.

1960 Prompton Dam, the district’s first permanent reservoir, opens just a few miles west of Dyberry Dam on the Lackawaxen.

1960 The new Summit Bridge is opened to traffic across the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal.

1961 Bear Creek Dam (later to become FRANCIS E. WALTER DAM in honor of a local congressman), the Philadelphia District’s first dam with controllable gates, is dedicated near the headwaters of the Lehigh River. It provides a flood storage capacity of 36 billion gallons.

1962 The “FIVE-HIGH” STORM, classified by the U.S. Weather Bureau as an extratropical cyclone unusual in composition and behavior, pounds the Atlantic Coast for three days in March. With five successive record high tides, it wreaks 65 million dollars worth of destruction on beaches, shore facilities, homes and utilities from New England to Florida.

1962 Congress authorizes construction of the TOCKS ISLAND DAM and the associated National Recreation Area. The project features a dam that will span the Delaware River, impound a 37-mile-long lake storing up to 105 billion gallons of water, and support a hydroelectric plant capable of producing 307 million kilowatt hours per year. The project will also set aside nearly 100,000 acres for recreation.

Dam Engineers

1957

1970

DISTRICT COMMANDERS



1957-1959
Col. William F. Powers



1959-1963
Col. Truman H. Setliffe



1963-1966
Col. Elmer P. Yates



1966-1968
Col. William W. Watkin Jr.



1968-1971
Col. James A. Johnson



DREDGE McFARLAND

1962 Congress approves the Trexler Dam on Jordan Creek, a tributary of the Lehigh River about eight miles northwest of Allentown, Pa.

1967 The DREDGE McFARLAND is launched as the Corps’ first oceangoing dredge with triple capability for hopper, sidecast and direct pumpout dredging. Originally designed by the Marine Design Division, now known as the Marine Design Center, and initially assigned to the Galveston District, it was transferred to the Jacksonville District in 1976. Jacksonville operated the dredge until 1982, when it was involved in a devastating fire. The McFarland was transferred to the Philadelphia District in 1982, underwent a major overhaul and fire damage repair, and was returned to service in 1983.

1968 Navigation through the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal is improved with completion of the Cutoff Channel and the high-level Reedy Point Bridge south of Delaware City.

1965-72 Army engineers during the Vietnamese Conflict help provide access to enemy strongholds in support of U.S. search and destroy missions. This conflict saw introduction of the Rome plow, a military tractor equipped with a protective cab and a special tree-cutting blade. Engineer troops constructed 900 miles of modern, paved highways connecting the major population centers of South Vietnam.



American History
Corps History
District History

DESTROYER ESCORT MONSSEN BEACHED AT HOLGATE, N.J. DURING FIVE-HIGH STORM