

## **COL Miroslav P. Kurka**

Deputy Division Commander Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Colonel Miroslav P. Kurka assumed duties as the Deputy Commander of the Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on 1 August 2008.

COL Kurka assists the Division Commander and senior staff in managing an annual program totaling more than \$3.5 billion in combined civil works, military construction, and environmental restoration projects. The Northwestern Division encompasses two major river basins – the Columbia and Missouri, with a workforce of about 4,700 individuals located primarily in five subordinate district offices in Portland, Seattle, Walla Walla Wash., Omaha, Neb., and Kansas City, Mo.

Prior to his arrival at Northwestern Division, COL Kurka commanded the Afghanistan Engineer District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for one year

where he led a 320-member staff managing a \$2.3 billion program providing engineering and construction throughout Central Asia. COL Kurka also commanded Tulsa District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for the three previous years (2004-2007). He was responsible for providing leadership and direction to the 650-member staff for a \$350 million civil and military works program.

COL Kurka is a native of Chicago, Illinois. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1980 from the United States Military Academy at West Point. He holds master's degrees in Administration from Central Michigan University and in National Resources Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He is a graduate of the U.S. Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms and Staff Services School, United States Army Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses.

Past career assignments include: service as Engineer Platoon Leader, Company Executive and Plans Officer, 20th Engineer Brigade, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Battalion Logistics Officer, Adjutant and Company Commander, 9th Engineer Battalion, Aschaffenburg, Germany; Assistant Professor of Military Science at Seattle University, Seattle, Washington; Assistant Division Engineer and Operations Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion, Fort Riley, Kansas; Combat Arms Division Chief at Readiness Group Sheridan, Illinois; Chief of Force Protection, U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg, Germany; Commander, 565th Engineer Battalion, Hanau, Germany; Commander, 1st Engineer Battalion, Fort Riley, Kansas; Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Objective Force Task Force, Arlington, Virginia.

COL Kurka's decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, NATO Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Engineer Regiment's Silver DeFleury Medal. He wears the Army Staff Identification Badge and Parachutist Badge.

COL Kurka is a certified Project Management Professional.