



**Colonel Thomas E. O'Donovan  
Commander**  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Afghanistan Engineer District



Colonel Thomas O'Donovan assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Afghanistan Engineer District on 7 July 2008, after commanding the Portland District for three years. In Portland, he was responsible for the Corps' water resource activities in western Oregon and southwestern Washington, where the emphasis is on environmental protection and restoration, fish and wildlife protection and enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, recreation, operation of the Corps' center of expertise for hydropower and pump station engineering, and hydropower production. The Portland District also provides support for the Global War on Terrorism.

Colonel O'Donovan earned a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Vermont in 1982. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate there and received his officer's commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

As a company-grade officer, he served in a variety of command and staff assignments in Fort Bragg, N.C., Germany and Fort Hood, Texas.

After receiving his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington in 1992, Colonel O'Donovan became an instructor and then an associate professor of civil and mechanical engineering at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. In 1995, he returned to Germany and served as the Brigade S1 for the Engineer Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division. He deployed to Bosnia in 1995 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division and served as the Operations Officer for the 40<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Mechanized). He served as the Assistant Corps Engineer for V Corps and as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Engineering (plans) for U.S. Army Europe, in Heidelberg, Germany. From 1999 to 2002, Colonel O'Donovan commanded the 52<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy) at Fort Carson, Colorado, the Army's first tri-component battalion. In 2002, after graduating from the U.S. Army War College, he assumed duties of Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army Engineer School in Fort Leonard Wood. Colonel O'Donovan is a registered professional engineer in Vermont, and his military education also includes the Engineer Officer's Basic and Advance courses, the Combined Armed Services Staff School, and the Command General Staff College.

His awards and decorations include: The Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal (fourth award), the Army Commendation Medal (third award), the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal (second award), the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal, and the Parachute Badge. He is a recipient of the Army Engineer Association's Silver De Fleury Medal.