

# The Newscastle

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U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
San Antonio District

Take a good look. This may be  
the last time you see  
**Matilija Dam.**



*Acting District Commander COL David Turk administers the oath of office to reenlisting SGM Jeffrey Koontz, another Army Reservist.*

# Reservist Colonel serves rare tour as District commander

Clearly, they liked what they saw.

“I simply had confidence in his abilities and felt the District would respond to his leadership,” BG Schroedel explains. “I had no reservations about his competence, knowledge of the issues and people (in the Region and sponsors), or in his ability to act independently and produce results.”

Echoed COL Flor: “BG Schroedel gets the credit for having the wisdom to select Dave. For my part, I can only say that I would have done the same, in BG Schroedel’s shoes, for a lot of reasons. The top two would be courage and the ability to communicate. Dave demonstrated the courage in dealing with the District’s customers in a straightforward manner and in his willingness to ask the District’s team members the difficult questions.

“Dave also has the ability to listen, digest complex situations and issue simple directives. Given these traits, he is able to sort through the unfamiliar and the difficult issues a District Engineer typically faces in the course of a day.”

Turk, who pinned on his second Meritorious Service Medal in early October just before heading off to Stuttgart, Germany for his next assignment, was no stranger to the

BY Mike Tharp

If military command is a plum job, COL David Turk just finished a blackberry gig.

For three-and-a-half months, the U.S. Army Reservist was Los Angeles District Commander, a rare posting for a non-Regular Army officer. “What’s significant about this is that the LA Corps of Engineers District is an important unit,” Turk explains. “For a reservist to command it is pretty much unheard of.”

The enviable assignment unfolded when the previous commander, COL Richard Thompson, deployed to Baghdad in June. His replacement, COL Alex Dornstauder, wasn’t scheduled to arrive from Iraq until the end of September. Who could fill the gap? South Pacific Region Commander BG Joseph Schroedel, Division Deputy Commander COL Joseph Flor and COL Thompson himself all turned their eyes toward Turk.

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**On the cover:**  
 Matilija Dam is scheduled for demolition. The full story is on page 9.



District. Since 1991, he's worn more hats than Minnie Pearl, serving as deputy chief of operations in the Emergency Ops Center, a program manager for PPMD, a program manager on an L.A. Unified School District project and other troubleshooting jobs.

Calling his selection "a strong statement by the Corps of Engineers," Turk said it also "sent a message out to the Reserve community: 'We are one Army.' They could have brought in somebody else. Given the opportunity, the general didn't shy away from it."

Turk's background made the choice a no-brainer for his superiors. The East Coast native has extensive engineering experience as both a civilian and as a military officer. Throughout the '80s, for example, he worked for several Fortune 1,000 firms, and he came back to the District two years ago as a green-suiter after a tour as Corps liaison to the European Command in Germany.

His term as commander originally was to last only five weeks, but it wound up taking nearly five times that long. Besides the hundreds of day-to-day missions worked by the District's 700+ team members (excluding contractors), the end of the fiscal year was bearing down. That deadline pressure added even more urgency to get things done on time and on budget.

But the full-bird temp wasn't worried. "I knew I had a very professional staff and organization to work with," he

explains. "I knew I'd have their support. The key was that I understood the directives coming down from headquarters and SPD, especially at year-end."

One immediate problem was to upgrade the District's recruiting center program, which Turk called "less than stellar" when he took command. But within three weeks, he recalls, Real Estate Division team members had elevated its status to "gold," a superior ranking reached for only the second time in District history.

Other achievements he's proud to have been part of:  
—The District got a "100% Award" for its work on the Davis-Monthan AFB apron expansion in Arizona;  
—Resource Management moved from a "Red" rating into "Green" in a very short time;  
—Planning Division's impressive work on the Matilija Dam removal project "has international implications," Turk says.  
—And in his typical team-first approach, Turk praises several other branches and divisions "since I don't want to leave anybody out."

After Los Angeles, Turk was preparing to return to Europe for the eighth time, where he would become watch officer in the Joint Operations Center of the European Command at Stuttgart. "I'll be operational, not an engineer," he notes. The tour could last anywhere between six months and two years and will be unaccompanied. (His wife Carolyn, a special education teacher K-6 in Valencia, Calif., won't be joining him.)

And if past is prologue, don't think you've seen the last of COL Turk shouldering his silver war eagles down the corridors of the Wilshire high-rise. "COL Dornstauder and Brian Moore both offered to take me back after that tour," he says. "That would be a nice job."

You might even say a plum.



***COL David Turk presents the Meritorious Service Medal to MAJ Kimberly Colloton and congratulates her before she departs for a tour of duty in Iraq.***



***COL Turk cools off in the dunk tank at this summer's Engineer Day picnic.***

# \$1,300,000,000 + 117 degrees + 122 days = one very hot budget analyst

BY Mike Tharp

Maybe it was the two Peace Corps years he spent in the Philippines. Or the six years teaching English in Japan. Or the four years trekking across India, Nepal and other Asian climes.

Whatever it was—and it was probably all the above—it helped Richard Kelly thrive in an unusually hostile environment for four grueling months in Iraq. Kelly, a two-year Corps of Engineers veteran now working as a budget analyst in the High Desert Area Office, managed a financial program for projects valued at more than \$1.3 billion and additional new construction project funds valued at \$500 million.

Not exactly chump change. And there's more.

LTC Stephen E. Jeselink, deputy commander of the Gulf Region Division's Central District, wrote that Kelly "provided valuable assistance in the overall administration of the largest mission the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has ever undertaken, namely two contracts with Bechtel National Inc., worth \$1.03 billion and \$1.8 billion, respectively."

From March to July, Kelly worked out of the Baghdad Convention Center, its walls pocked from mortar rounds. Now back in the U.S., Kelly praises the troops who protected him and hundreds of others toiling in the Green Zone. "I felt safe," he recalls, "considering you're surrounded by people who have a different agenda—to kill you if they could."

Kelly, whose B.S. is in forestry and with an MBA from the Garvin School of International Management (formerly Thunderbird) in Arizona, understates the simplicity of his daily routine. "Bechtel would send an invoice or voucher, I'd process them and send them on to USAID for approval, and Bechtel would get paid," he says.

LTC Jeselink elaborated on Kelly's mission, for which he volunteered: "Richard was essential in keeping the vast amounts of financial information organized and available for everyone to use. He also played a major role in maintaining the USAID's project office property

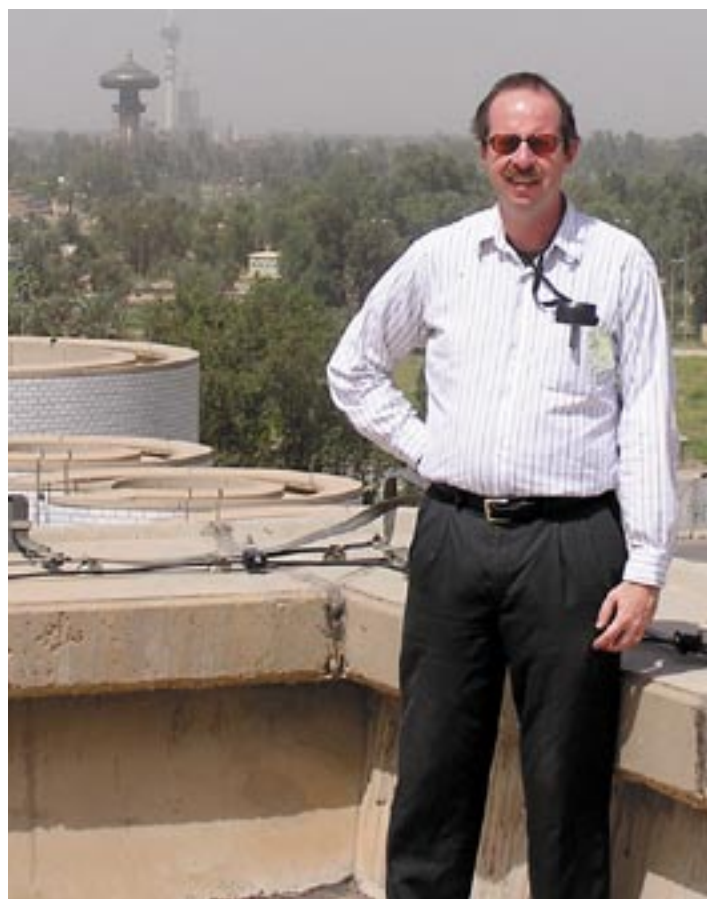
accountability of over \$600,000 of office equipment when he eagerly filled in as the logistics manager for nearly two months."

Usually tethered to his computer, Kelly did venture out to the Red Zone three times, visiting the Ministry of Housing and Construction. Otherwise, he was mostly indoors. LTC Jeselink called Kelly's working environment "austere and dangerous."

Kelly compared his tour to the movie "Groundhog Day," where you repeat the same day every day. You slept six or seven hours, worked seven days, 12 to 14 hours a day, got some sleep and went right back to it. There was no time off. You could take annual leave or sick time any time you wanted, but all we wanted to do was work. It was 'Groundhog Day'—you did it."

He also insists that he was simply part of a team, that every member pulled his or her fair share of the load.

Another of Kelly's tasks was to plan and execute a complete relocation of all property to a new office—"with



***Richard Kelly on a rooftop for a short pause in the Baghdad heat.***

no loss of accountability,” said LTC Jeselink. “His outstanding technical abilities, combined with his ever-positive attitude, were key to the successful mission accomplishment” for the Central District.

Unlike some recent returnees who’ve been embittered by their Iraq experiences, Kelly remains upbeat. “I saw the Iraqis taking more responsibility for their work,” he relates. “The U.S. government was pushing for the Iraqi people to run their country. Once they bought into the idea that their future was going to be in their hands, I saw more and more of it every day. I predict the Iraqi National Guard and soldiers now being trained will pick up more and more of the responsibility for security—the No. 1 issue. They wanted security and they wanted electricity—it’s 117 (degrees) and at nighttime you swelter.”

One project Kelly points to with particular pride is one of the largest wastewater treatment plants in the Middle East, just outside Baghdad. “The Corps of Engineers got it online,” he says. “Cleaned it, rehabbed it, got new structures. There were 500 or 600 people working on it. Once that starts and is successful, momentum will build.”

Many expats were worried about the handoff from the Coalition Provisional Authority to the State Dept. and its huge embassy, but Kelly believes the transition went well. “Everybody was expecting some spectacular event, but it didn’t happen,” he says. “I saw people feeling optimistic—Iraqis as well as people in my office. I saw improvement. Elections will be held, and Saddam will be at the end of a rope.”

Like some U.S. military officers, Kelly thinks more civilian boots are needed on the ground. “We needed more people,” he recalls. “There were 21 when I got there and we ended up with 13 when I left. We have to keep things going, but we’re so stretched. We did a lot of things we didn’t have the skill sets for. They need everyone they can get—I hope more people volunteer.”

Another pressing need is better engineering skills among



***A beach resort? No, but during deployment it’s still a welcome spot for a break - sun, water and sand bags included.***

the Iraqis themselves. “Their skill set is 20 years behind the equipment that international corporations are building now,” he says. “They require a new mindset, for example, on maintenance. That’s the training we’re trying to do to instill in the engineers and all the way down.”

He also believes longer tours are preferable to shorter ones. “People should be encouraged to stay longer,” he says. “I was there 122 days. People who stayed a little more were veterans. You learn from your experience.”

LTC Jeselink calls Kelly “an American hero.” During his deployment “Richard kept the mission in mind and did what the mission required, regardless of the very dangerous and life-threatening distractions around him. Richard is a team player, has a great attitude and he will be missed.”

In “Groundhog Day” actor Bill Murray plays a weatherman who becomes ensnared in living the same day over and over. At one point, he seeks to discourage an insurance salesman by asking, “I don’t know where you’re needed, but couldn’t you call in sick?”

Richard Kelly’s tour may have been repetitive and dangerous, but he never called in sick.

# Edwards AFB Medical Clinic opens doors

Story and photos by Jay Field

EDWARDS AFB, Ca.—Officials cut the ceremonial ribbon and opened the doors of the new Edwards Clinic to patients and allowing Air Force health-care providers to give even better service in a more pleasant atmosphere.

It was a nostalgic opening, as the spacious 47,000-square-foot facility replaces the former Station Hospital (built in 1952), the first hospital constructed on an Air Force base since the birth of the service in 1947. Downsized over the years from a 60-bed facility to an outpatient-only clinic, the old hospital is slated for demolition.

The new clinic was built next to the old, which stayed in operation during the construction. That helped make the transition easier for the staff, but added safety challenges for construction crews working only 20 feet from the existing building.

The \$15 million clinic features curved roofs and unique glass elements, surpassing the expectations of its chief tenant, Col. Sally Petty, commander of the 95<sup>th</sup> Medical Group. Col. Petty said “This, by far, has one of the most spacious, bright, airy and receptive areas for our patients than any clinic I’ve been in.”

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contractor Nigel Cary, president of Cox Construction, said the relationship



***(From L to R) Col. Gary Triche, Air Force Materiel Command Chief, Readiness and Health Care Support Division, Mr. Les Bordelon, Air Force Flight Test Center Executive Director, Col. Sally Petty, 95<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Commander, and Col. J.R. Tillery, 95<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing Vice Commander cut the ribbon officially opening Edwards’ new medical clinic.***

with their Corps and Air Force partners allowed Cox to build a structure adaptable to the high desert. “We hope to leave a legacy on the base for sustainable construction in some very tight quarters, with some wonderful adaptations for the local environment,” Cary said. “We’re pleased to have brought the project in on time and within budget despite the harsh environment,” he added.

Col. Petty said planning for the new clinic started in the early 1990’s, but changed in 2000 to meet the Air Force Surgeon General’s optimization plan for the delivery of primary care. “The way we designed how we deliver care here is probably the best thing about this new facility,” said Col. Petty. “We have entry ports and we have the ability for physicians to manage all the care in one room since everything is computer-linked... and that makes a big difference for our patients.”

The 95<sup>th</sup> Medical Group’s motto is to “provide responsive care and service for mission success and lifelong health.” The new clinic should greatly help their mission.



***Edwards Air Force Base’s new medical clinic***

# Computer donations cement District's ties to schools and other groups in California, Arizona, New Mexico

BY Mike Tharp

Amanda, Jenelle and Kimberly in Ms. Fire Thunder's class at Santa Rosa Boarding and Day School wrote about the Sonoran Desert where they live in southwest Arizona.

The girls described a game played long ago by their Tohono O'odham forebears called toka. "You use sticks that are shaped like hockey sticks, and the game is sort of like hockey where you have to hit a ball," they wrote on their class's Web page. Now, thanks to the grit and generosity of several District team members, the girls and their fellow students at the Sells, Ariz., school will have more computers to use in their schoolwork.

Glynn Alsup, tribal liaison for the District's Native American Special Emphasis Program, delivered the computers. "Upon arrival, I contacted the principal, Keith Semins, and he had the maintenance crew assist in unloading the computers and monitors," Alsup said. "The school was selective in the equipment they received. They only took the number of computers to match the number of monitors." He then took a large printer and several fax machines to Darlene Lopez at the San Lucy District School on the Tohono O'odham Nation at Gila Bend, Ariz.

Point man for the District's ongoing program of computer and other tech gear donations is Romano Caturegli of the Logistics Management Office. For several years now, Caturegli has shouldered the task of making sure the District's excess electronics equipment is given to needy schools in California, Arizona and New Mexico.

That amounts to several truck or van trips a year throughout the southwest, with the LMO team member literally hauling computers to school officials. Rough work, but Caturegli got used to deserts in the 1970s when he worked on several big Corps construction projects in Saudi Arabia.

Earlier in August, Alsup had made another delivery to the Little Colorado RC&D School in Holbrook, Ariz. Assisted again by Caturegli and Kayla Eckert, Alsup contacted Ron Smith and Dennis Chandler at the school. On site, he handed over an HP design jet plotter, a roll-up digitizer and monitors. The men had to move fast because strong winds began blowing dusty rain around the truck. "They were very excited," he reported. "They wanted me to tell Kayla and Romano, 'Thank you!'"

That same day, Caturegli met officials from the Miracle Baptist Christian School in south central L.A. to deliver 18 excess computers with monitors and accessories.

Back in July, Alsup had again hit the Indian trail, this time

to Shiprock, N.M. At Dine College there, he donated 33 computers to Perry Charley, director/principal investigator of the college's Uranium Education Program. While on campus, he was shown students in the Student Business class busily using machines donated by the District last year.

"Dine College now has computers for the Geographic Information System Center, the Business Center and the Computer Center," Alsup said. "Students who don't have computers can sign out a computer to use at home. Dine College has given computers to local high schools in the communities on the Navajo Nation. They were really excited to have a plotter and the color printers."

In late August, director Charley sent a letter to BG Joseph Schroedel, commander of the South Pacific Division, thanking the Corps for its long-standing assistance to the Navajo Nation and the college.

Alsup "has been directly involved with our environmental education and communities involvement activities (and) it is through his efforts the computer equipment was acquired." Charley also called Alsup's knowledge and expertise about abandoned uranium mines "invaluable," adding that the computer gear would also be used by the Uranium Education Program center. "With our joint collaboration, we are able to address numerous environmental issues and have begun mitigation measures," he concluded.

Ed Louie, project manager for Hansen Dam, received a letter of appreciation in August from the Los Angeles Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners. The group "accepted with great appreciation your very generous donation of two Dell Optiplex GX110 computers, with a total estimated value of \$2,457.89, to the Hansen Dam Open Water Junior Lifeguard program."

Thanking Louie and the District on behalf of the citizens of Los Angeles, the board also presented him with a plaque of appreciation extending "its deepest appreciation for your generous donation."

Considering the recurring generosity of these and other District team members, it's instructive to learn what the Tohono O'odham Nation says about its own tribal symbol, the I'toi, or the man in the maze: "The story of I'toi is also the story of every human being, traveling through life as through a maze, taking many turns while growing stronger and wiser as death, at the center of the maze, comes closer.

"Trace the light path. You will find one more turn at the end, away from the center. Here we can look back on the trail and have one last chance for reflection and an opportunity to find acceptance of the last step."

## HEENAC interns declare

# ‘One nation, one Army, one team’

BY Jay Field

“U.S. Army Corps of Engineers! One nation, one Army, one team, HOOAH!” That was the battle cry of the Corps’ College Bowl team as they began their day of competition at the 2004 Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Corporation (HENAAC) Conference in Pasadena, Oct. 7-9.

Members of USACE participated in this conference as a platinum-level corporate sponsor of HENAAC, following up on a commitment made last year to enhance opportunities for Hispanic students preparing for professional technical careers in engineering, science and mathematics.

Recruiters from 20 different corporate sponsors, led 22 teams made up of 200 college students from across the nation. Students were selected to corporate teams draft-style. They were given time to present themselves to the corporate recruiters who chose their team members over three rounds of the draft.

For Alec Calvo, an engineering sophomore at Cornell University and one of eight students on the Corps team, the College Bowl was more than a mini-career fair. “You don’t have just 30 seconds to talk to someone and sell yourself, you have an entire weekend. So you can really shine and let them know who you are,” he said. “It’s basically a weekend-long interview.”

L.A. District biologist Susan Meyer and civil engineer David Van Dorpe served as mentors, tasked with organizing, advising and motivating the Corps’ team. The two jumped at the opportunity to coach the engineering students and teach them about the Corps.

Meyer said, “College Bowl is a high-energy event. If I were to coach again, I’d be sure to brush up on my cheerleading skills and dance moves!” Aside from the cheerleading, one challenge had the team develop a resume, while another had them create and perform a skit highlighting potential engineering careers with their corporate sponsor.

Van Dorpe said students not only presented themselves to the different companies they’re interested in, but they threw so-called soft skills into the mix. “They’re doing performances, they’re doing skits, we’re doing a team cheer. It’s bringing out all those qualities that you can’t get on a paper resumé.”



***USACE’s HEENAC College Bowl team answered roll call with a hearty “HOOAH!” cheer.***

Chief of Engineers LTG Carl Strock noted that the activities were not technically oriented; rather they focused on relationship building: “And that’s very much like what we do in the Corps of Engineers, take very high quality individuals, performing as teams, that frequently come together and have to develop solutions very quickly.”

LTG Strock said the HEENAC partnership benefits the Corps. “We have an obligation as a public service agency to return to the community. And we do that by offering opportunities to people who may not have understood what those opportunities might be.”

University of California at Berkeley student Emmanuel Sanchez-Solorio found the HENAAC conference powerful and motivational. He cited being on the Corp’s College Bowl team as the highlight of the activities. “Thank you (Corps coaches) for being such great mentors,” he said. “You guys made this event great!”

With a final “HOOAH!” cheer, the Corps’ team accepted third-place honors for the College Bowl—not bad for a first-time effort. Participants and mentors agreed that more important than the accolades was the formation of lasting relationships. Meyer said the Corps team members were genuinely excited to be a part of the Army Corps team. “We’re hopeful that several will seek Co-Op or Intern positions with the Corps,” she added.

The conference concluded with a traditional job fair where the Corps displayed LA District’s Rapid Response Vehicle along with various displays of Corps employees at work.



# Matilija Dam

Now you see it,  
soon you won't

Built more than 50 years ago to solve water problems in the Ojai Valley near Ventura, the Matilija Dam is now obsolete, and the plan is to tear it down. This is the first Corps of Engineers dam removal study of this scale and scope for the nation and sets a precedent for future large-scale dam removal projects.

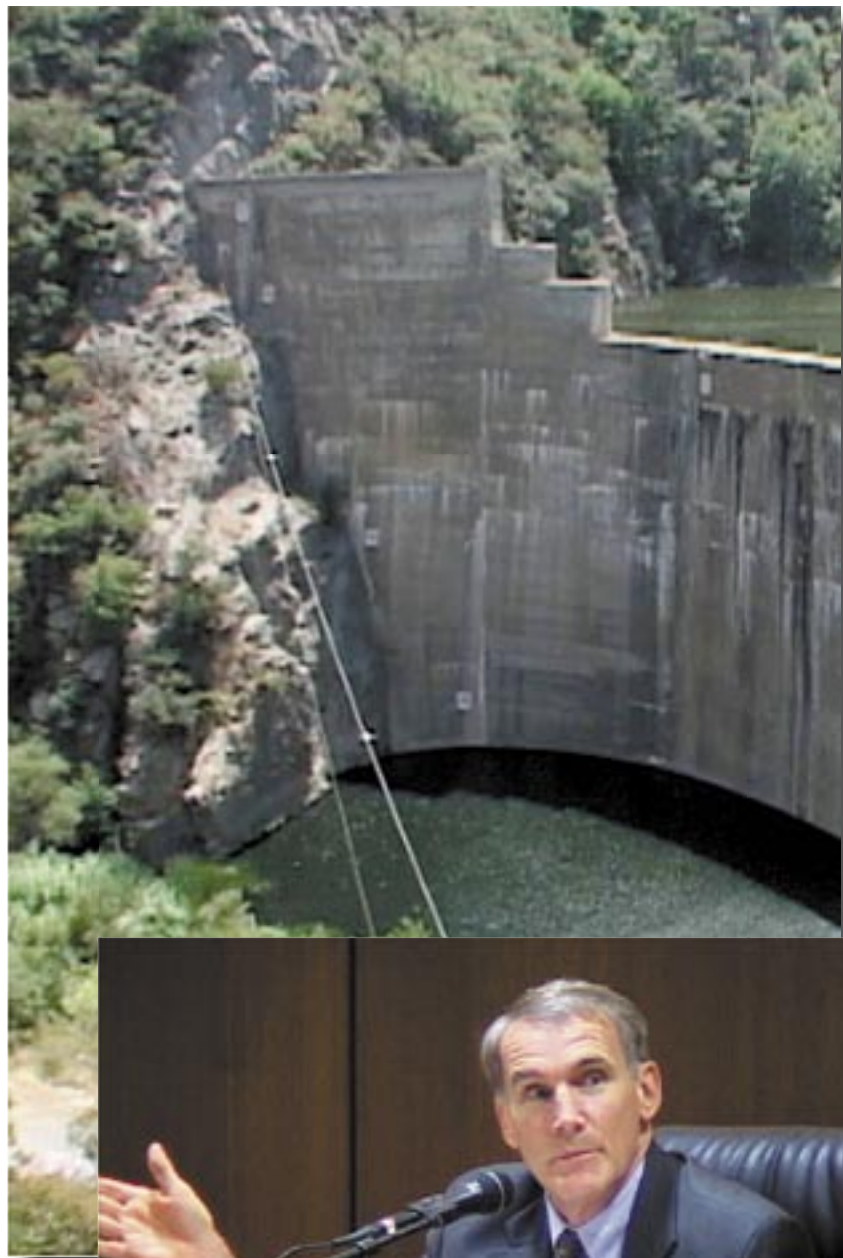
The Ventura County Watershed Protection District (formerly the Ventura County Flood Control District) constructed the dam in 1947 to provide a water supply for local agricultural needs and to offer limited flood protection for downstream communities.

Large volumes of sediment quickly began to accumulate behind the dam, eventually leaving only a small, shallow reservoir, now estimated to hold only seven percent of its original capacity. Some six million cubic yards of trapped sediment cripple Matilija Dam's water storage capacity and undermine its ability to provide flood protection. The dam blocks endangered steelhead trout from reaching prime spawning and rearing habitat. It further prevents the natural flow of sediment from the mountains to the ocean, depriving Ventura County beaches of much-needed sand.

The Los Angeles District recently concluded a five-year study of the dam and formulated a plan to remove it.

"It would be the biggest dam in the country to come down," said Ventura County Supervisor Steve Bennett. "And the idea of establishing a free-flowing river in Southern California—restoring the river to its natural setting—is really remarkable."

Corps Study Manager Jon Vivanti said the dam's removal will restore the natural flow of sediment from Matilija



*Above, Ventura County Supervisor Steve Bennett thanks the plan formulation team for their work in drafting the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study at a public meeting July 28 in the Ventura County Hall of Administration.*

*Left, LA District representatives brief the public at the meeting.*



fish and wildlife species. “Over 17 miles of pristine steelhead spawning and juvenile rearing habitat in the Los Padres National Forest will once again be accessible after more than 50 years of blockage, doubling the amount of river miles currently available for fish passage,” Vivanti said.

The Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study is one of the largest dam removal studies in the country, and one of the largest ecosystem restoration studies undertaken by the Corps of Engineers west of the Mississippi River.

The Corps partnered with other federal, state and local agencies, as well as a number of non-governmental organizations and community members to outline the report at a public meeting in Ventura.

The recommended plan includes full dam removal in one phase. Portions of the trapped sediment would be removed by slurry line to a downstream disposal

***Left: Matilija Dam as it stands today.***

***Below: An artist's rendition of how Matilija Creek will look after the dam is removed.***



site, with the remaining sediment to be contoured to restore a fish passage channel, allowing storms to naturally erode sediment downstream.

The process of returning the river to pre-dam conditions will increase the flooding risk to infrastructure developed along the river corridor since construction of the dam. So the plan includes features to mitigate the flood risk by removing structures, replacing a bridge and raising and extending downstream levees.

Removal of the dam will also impact the downstream water supply. A sediment bypass is proposed to reduce impacts to the Robles Diversion and Lake Casitas facilities, while construction of two groundwater wells at Foster Park is included to reduce the impact on City of Ventura facilities.

The recommended plan includes the removal of exotic and invasive plant species and the implementation of recreational trails and



*USACE Study Manager, Jon Vivanti (right), discusses the Matilija Dam removal project with a reporter from KVTA-AM radio in Ventura during a media visit to the dam near Ojai.*

interpretive centers.

Cost of the plan is estimated to be \$110 million, with the federal cost share at 65 percent.

Project implementation assumes conditional authorization in the proposed Water Resources Development Act of 2004, with construction to begin as early as 2008.



*Officials from LA District and Ventura County talk with homeowners who live near Matilija Dam about the impact its removal may have on their property. Using the “watershed approach,” the Corps has involved the public in the study from the start.*

# Los Angeles Engineer and Contractors win South Pacific Region awards



## **Construction Manager of the Year:**

Stan Fujimoto, LA District Project Engineer, was named SPR Construction Manager of the Year for 2003 at a recent ceremony at division headquarters. Fujimoto managed multi-million-dollar construction projects at the Port of LA and Cal State Dominguez Hills, completing them on time and under budget. Stan works out of the Baseyard.



## **Contractor of the Year for Military Construction Projects:**

Straub Construction, Inc. was selected Contractor of the Year for Military Construction Projects for its construction of the \$12.8 million Missile Transport Bridge at Vandenberg Air Force Base.



## **Contractor of the Year for Civil Works Projects:**

Reyes Construction, Inc. earned Contractor of the Year for Civil Works Projects honors for its work on the \$1.84 million South Bay Water Recycling Project at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

**R REYES CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

# The little sticker that saves lives

By Kim Matthews

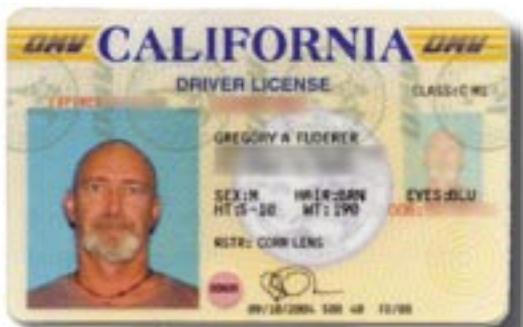
It's less than half an inch in size, pink and made from paper, but it has the power to save lives.

If you are at least 18 years old, you may donate your body, body parts, or a pacemaker for medical transplantation, research, or both after your death. The California Department of Motor Vehicles can supply you with a donor card (DL 290) to be carried with your driver license or ID card and a donor sticker to be placed on the front of the card. The card can also be used to show you do not wish to be a donor. Donors should share their decision with family members to be sure they know before a decision has to be made.

Donation of tissue is less discussed than organ donation, but just as important and much more common. The Lifeline of Ohio organ donation website states the following facts on tissue donation:

#### **Bone:**

- \* An estimated 300,000 bone grafts are done yearly.
- \* Bone is the second most transplanted tissue today, second only to blood.
- \* Bone is utilized for transplantation in many different



*Make sure  
you're dotted  
before it's too  
late.*

surgical specialties, including neurosurgery and orthopedic surgery. A bone transplant may also be used to replace bone lost in severe trauma, or to repair severe curvature of the spine in children.

#### **Skin:**

\* Transplanted skin is used as replacement tissue more than 100,000 times per year. Three-fourths of this usage occurs with skin that provides a wound dressing for severe burn patients. With severe burns, skin can be a lifesaving treatment by providing a barrier to infection and heat loss. By covering the burns with donated skin, the amount of pain and scarring is greatly reduced.

\* Another 500,000 patients could have their wound-healing times shortened if enough skin were available.

#### **Heart Valves:**

\* Heart valves are used in cardiovascular surgery for patients with valvular disease.

\* The heart valves may be used from hearts that cannot be used for transplantation.

\* Heart valves are recovered for use in children and adults who suffer from degenerative or congenital heart defects.

#### **Soft Tissue:**

\* Fascia lata, the thin, fibrous covering of the thigh muscle, can be used to repair many different defects.

\* Tendons and ligaments can be used in many different orthopedic procedures.

#### **Veins and Arteries (Saphenous and Femoral):**

- \* Veins are used for heart bypass surgeries.
- \* Arteries are used for venous insufficiency.
- \* Arteries are used for IV access.
- \* Arteries and veins are used for diabetic A-V fistula.
- \* Arteries and veins are used for various bypass procedures

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## P2 handbook now available online

P2 users can now go online to access a handbook to make using P2 easier and more understandable.

The handbook is designed to improve the day-to-day use of P2 across the Corps, facilitate finding answers to many P2 questions and will expand as more experience is gained with the system and feedback is received from the field. The initial version includes information on how to navigate in P2.

The intent is to ultimately make this site the primary source of guidance on how to use P2, with links to information from the other major systems integrated into it. Guidance is also linked to the appropriate process in the PMBP Manual. A software tool called "Robohelp" powers the users guide, which also contains an index of key words, a search engine and a glossary that will assist you and decrease the amount of time needed to find key information.

A link to the P2 user guide can be found on the PMBP portal: <https://pmbp.usace.army.mil>.



# World War II sun compass continued from back cover

BY Mike Tharp

Sun compass.

The British Army used one to guide its vehicles against Rommel's Afrika Corps in Libya and Egypt's western desert in 1942.

And the Los Angeles District used one—maybe by coastal spotters or antiaircraft artillerymen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula looking for enemy planes and subs after Pearl Harbor.

The sun compass was the forerunner of today's Global Positioning System. Thanks to the thoughtfulness of Sharon Clanton, niece of a former Corps employee, the late Leslie Clanton, the Los Angeles District recently acquired (or reacquired) one in mint condition.

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he died, the sun compass—"C. of E./U.S.A."—stamped on the olive drab wooden box holding it--was among possessions he had kept in his van.

In any case,

***The Clanton brothers, Leslie, Richard and Robert.***



***Sharon Clanton and the sun compass left to her by her uncle, Leslie Clanton.***

the 1944 sun compass will be donated to the USACE Headquarters Museum in Washington, D.C. Curator Eric Reinert, who says he'd been "doodling around" with the idea of a compass display, hopes to set up a small exhibit for six or eight months at the Headquarters building. He also plans to photograph the L.A. sun compass and others to post an online version of the exhibit at the Office of History Web site.

Then, according to Dr. Fred-Otto Egeler, L.A. District public affairs chief, the sun compass will be housed in the California Military Reserve Museum in Sacramento; Dr. Egeler is a major in the reserve.

A sun compass "is a mechanical device which utilizes the azimuth of the sun to obtain true direction," its 29-page 1943 maintenance manual states. "The instrument is ruggedly built and can be used on any type of vehicle on which it can be mounted properly. The sun compass has many definite advantages over the magnetic compass."

The U.S. Geologic Survey described one of its predecessors in the 1920s, a device called a Baldwin's sun graph used for field navigation. A decade or so later, a Bagnold sun compass also was developed in Europe, according to Jack Valenti of the Long-Range Desert Group, a British outfit that seeks to preserve the history of the Brits in the North Africa campaign.

In the early 1940s, a Lansing, Mich., firm called Abrams Instrument Co. began turning out "compass, sun, universal type, Abrams model SC-1."

*A page from the sun compass manual showing how it looked when fully assembled.*

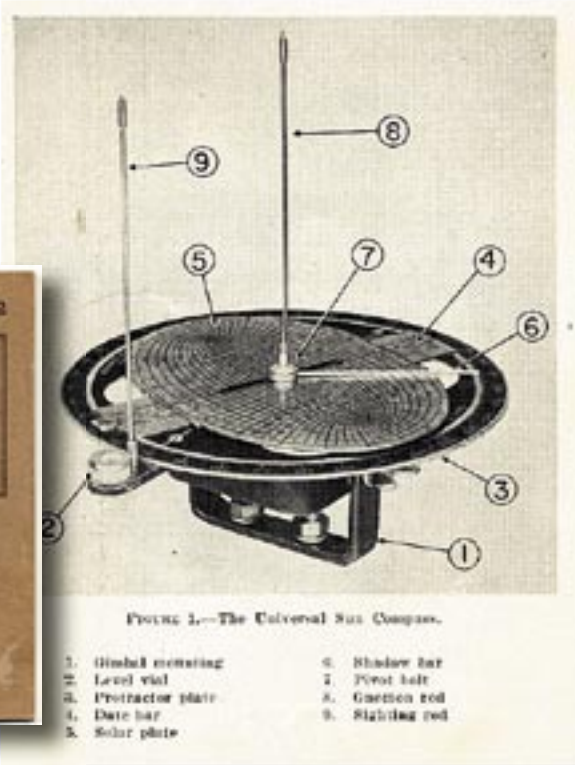
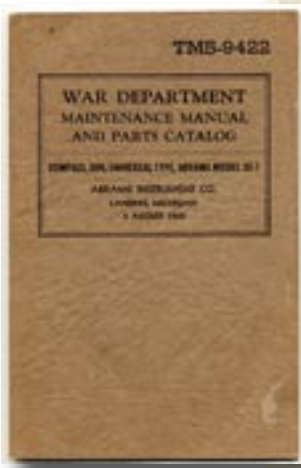


FIGURE 1.—The Universal Sun Compass.

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Gimbal mounting  | 6. Shadow bar   |
| 2. Level vial       | 7. Pivot bolt   |
| 3. Protractor plate | 8. Gnomon rod   |
| 4. Date bar         | 9. Sighting rod |
| 5. Solar plate      |                 |

This model is the one donated to the District. “From what I understand they all worked in much the same way,” Valenti writes in an e-mail.

The SC-1 seems to have been first used in the North African desert. “B24 Liberator bombers were equipped with this instrument so that, in case of a crash, the survivors could orientate themselves in the desert,” Francois Pineau, a French researcher, reports on his Web site. “It was used in the Philippines by the U.S. Army. The British and Australian Armies also used the sun compass. There is some evidence, not definitive, that the German Army also used a similar instrument.

“In addition, some polar expeditions used it up to the ‘70s. The Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions used American Army surplus sun compasses. Several accounts confirm that a sun compass was still used on expeditions in the Sahara at the end of the ‘70s.”

Sturdy and mechanically simple, the sun compass wasn’t affected by local magnetic forces. It was mounted on whatever vehicle was handy. But it had one drawback: It could only be used in sunlight so that shadows caused by the sun could point out the right direction; “or by sighting on the north star at night when it is not cloudy,” the maintenance manual states.

After Pearl Harbor, Pvt. Leslie Clanton, uncle of Sharon (who gave the sun compass to the District), served with the 78<sup>th</sup> Antiaircraft Artillery Searchlight Battery, based at Camp Haan, near Riverside. He “maintained and operated” an SCR-268 radar unit for long periods,” according to his military records, and also operated a “distant electric

control station during alerts and missions.”

The radar system was “expressly designed for fixed antiaircraft defenses, such as coastal batteries,” says a Web site devoted to one of those World War II battalions. That meant Pvt. Clanton probably would have done his duty somewhere on the bluffs overlooking the Pacific, possibly at San Pedro’s Fort MacArthur.

The radar was one leg of a tripod defense system that also included a 60-inch-diameter searchlight and some of the big guns facing out toward the ocean. In theory, the radar would pinpoint the location of an approaching hostile aircraft; a spotlight synchronized to the radar would then illuminate the target for the newly installed 155-mm and three-inch antiaircraft guns.

The Barlow-Saxon battery on the upper reservation of Fort MacArthur had been built by the Corps in 1916, entirely by hand labor—picks, shovels and small trucks. It housed eight mortars capable of discharging 960-pound shells, “which caused temblors equivalent to a 1.2 magnitude earthquake,” says Joe Janesic, vice president and a board member of the Fort MacArthur Museum Association.

Besides enemy aircraft, enemy ships were also in the crosshairs of coastal defenders—and they proved to be much more of a threat than anything from the skies. During the course of the war, 19 Japanese submarines were sighted from the California coast, and 12 allied ships were sunk between Los Angeles and San Francisco, the museum’s Janesic relates.

Spotters like Clanton thus had to watch for subs and other hostile ships, and the sun compass would have been a handy daytime tool for that duty. “They had to find the range (of vessels) and how high off the surf they were,” says Janesic.

Pvt. Clanton manned the coastal batteries only from August to May 1942 before he and his unit were shipped to the Pacific. Among other awards he received in that theater were the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon and a Bronze Star.

And there may be a connection between one of his last Army assignments and the mystery his niece encountered in his later life. Clanton, by 1944 a staff sergeant, worked in the 223d Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion’s S-2 shop—the



# CEFMS - not just something to cuss at

BY Pam Wills

**CEFMS** stands for Corps of Engineers Financial Management System. It is the Corps system for signing documents electronically and takes the place of a handwritten signature to reduce the amount of paperwork routed throughout the agency.

There are three kinds of CEFMS cards that are issued: User cards, Systems Administrator (SA) cards and District Security Officer (DSO) cards. User cards are issued most often to give users the ability to sign documents electronically. SA cards have this ability but can also be used to initialize a computer when a user gets a new card. Initializing a new computer means that an SA card must be used to tell the adaptor board that the user is authorized to use it.

District Security Officers are responsible for issuing Smartcards. There is a DSO1 and a DSO2. DSO1s are responsible for User cards and SA PINs, while DSO2s take care of SA cards and User PINs. Both a DSO1 and a DSO2 are needed to process any smart card. They are also needed to unlock cards. DSOs are designated in CEFMS and only they can perform these functions. Unless the DSO's supervisor is a DSO, he or she cannot help you.

Smartcards and PINs are kept in two safes. The DSO1 safe contains the User cards and SA pins and the DSO2 safe holds the SA cards and User PINs. Each safe has a different combination and only the DSO responsible for that safe has it. The DSO's supervisor doesn't have the combination.

Smartcards are recycled. When your CEFMS card is deactivated and you receive a new one, you should send your old card, intact, back to IMO so that it can be sent back to the Western Processing Center to be assigned a new PIN and given to a new user.

When your card is deactivated and you receive a new one, you should send your old card, intact (no holes punched in and not bent or broken), back to IMO so that it can be sent back to receive a new PIN.

Most CEFMS functions do not require a Smartcard. These include requesting a Smartcard, purchase request creation, timekeeping, training, travel orders and vouchers.

When a card is going to expire, you will receive a message when you login to CEFMS 30 days prior to its expiration date. The CEFMS system automatically sends an email to tell you that your card will expire. This message lists Kate Birger as the sender, but actually the system is sending it. You won't receive any more warnings until seven days prior and then every day

thereafter.

There is a way to find out when your current card will expire before the system starts giving you messages. This is also the same way you request a card.

First, log in to CEFMS and click on (4) Electronic Signature Functions. Next, click on (1) Request Smartcards and any CEFMS cards you have had will be listed. Look at the dates to find your current one and note when it will expire. You can then go into Outlook and schedule when you want to make your request, which should be at least a week before it expires. To do this, go down to the first blank line on the screen, type a U or an S (for User or SA card) and hit enter, then click on Save.

Once the card has been requested, it must then be approved by one of the approving officials, who currently are Kate Birger and John McMaster. Before receiving a new CEFMS card, your old card must be deactivated.

When the person comes to pick up his card, he must sign an Appendix A: Smartcard Holder's Responsibilities form and the front of the PIN number envelope. He then opens the envelope and keeps the part with the PIN, giving the front of the envelope to the DSO.

Sometimes when you login to CEFMS an expiration message comes up but it isn't for your card. Check the number listed in the message and make sure it matches your card. If it doesn't, it is the card of the individual who initialized (SA) your machine.

You can find out who initialized your machine. Right click on the WinSig symbol at the bottom of your screen. Move your mouse to "Esig Package," then to "Find SA Name" at the left. Click on this and a small screen will come up with the name of the person who initialized your machine. If the SA log on screen comes up, this means that you need someone to SA your machine.

## CEFMS Facts

*CEFMS is an Oracle relational database originally written in DOS format.*

*The Smartcard has a computer chip in it that is read by the card reader.*

*Each card has its own serial number for identification located on the lower right corner on the back of the card.*

*Each smartcard has its own Personal Identification Number (PIN) randomly generated and pronounceable so that the user can remember it more easily.*

*To use a Smartcard, you must have a card reader and an adaptor board installed in your computer.*

# Arizona Mystery Markers story crosses time and the country

An update to the story in the September issue of the Newcastle.

Tom Brock, retired in Pinetop, worked for the Corps Arizona Real Estate Office for decades, retiring in 1992. He'd just gotten a copy of the Newcastle in the mail (all retirees get one) and added his perspective to the "Markers" story:

"In the mid-'60s without prior notice, we received a visit from surveyors from the Army Map Service. They briefed us on a project involving placement of concrete aerial camera markers at approximately one-mile intervals throughout a 16 x 16-mile area in and mostly south of Casa Grande. Each marker was to be 60 x 60 feet in the form of a Maltese cross.

"Our immediate task was to lease office space for the surveyors in Casa Grande and to obtain rights of entry on key sites so they could start working with their theodolite instruments which utilized a reflected pulse. It is my understanding that the survey was both vertical and horizontal with extreme accuracy not off more than the width of a pencil lead in a mile. The surveyors installed a concrete cylinder 3 feet long with the brass monument on top in the ground at the center of each site.

"Some 90 leases, plus or minus, were negotiated for needed sites. Sixty-four of the sites fell on the Papago Indian Reservation....Each site with exceptions in platted

subdivisions, was 100 x 100 feet with access rights..."

"The LA District contracted for and supervised the installation of the markers. A decade or more later we were advised that the test range was no longer needed by the Army Map Service. A large portion had become inaccurate due to subsidence caused by groundwater pumping for the many cotton farms in the area...."

"We wrote letters to the lessors in the portion of the range to be abandoned asking if they wanted the markers removed from their property. Most did...The concrete rubble was disposed of along the banks of a wash over toward Eloy.

"Regarding the 'manholes' called 'wells' by surveyors: We were told that remotely controlled lights were to be installed. For reasons unknown to me, this never happened."



*One of the giant markers in the Arizona desert.*

*This well with the cover moved shows where the remotely controlled lights would have been installed.*

# Around the L.A. District



Chief of Engineers LTG Carl Strock discusses Prado Dam progress with one of the project managers.



COL David Turk congratulates COL Alex Dornstauder on receiving a plaque of gratitude from MG Ronald L. Johnson, director of the US Army Installation Management Agency, in appreciation for his loyal and dedicated service while the colonel was chief of staff for the Gulf Region Division in Iraq.

## Lighting the way in Qudas

BY Priscilla Perry, Project Manager for the Qudas site

The Qudas power plant in Baghdad, Iraq, is having four 43 MW (LM 6000) turbine generators installed. These turbine configurations will be dual-fuel, but be commissioned on diesel. The contractor will furnish and install an oil treatment facility, a water treatment facility, including water intake and associated pipeline and an oil storage tank to provide crude oil to the new generators. The facilities will be sized to provide the normal daily usage requirements of these units running at nameplate capacity. The oil storage tank will have a minimum capacity of 150,000 gallons or allow 72 hours of continuous operation.

Total generation capacity of these turbine generator configurations will be capable of producing 160 MW, 50 HZ, 11 KV power in a mode connected to the national grid, supplementing the grid's power supply at the 400KV line. Performance of this requirement includes providing full generation (160 MW) to grid.



*General Electric Technical Assistance personnel with Priscilla Perry at the Qudas site.*

The units are made by GE so their representatives are here to make sure the units are properly working. I was inspecting the site that day.

I just received the September Newcastle...a great issue!!! Can you send 5 more copies for me to pass out to our Historian and others? Glad everything came together with "the mystery."

Cheers, Howard

Howard Cohen  
Media Relations, Public Affairs Office D-54  
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency  
Bethesda, MD 20816

## Letter to the Editor



# WORLD WAR II SUN COMPASS HANDED DOWN TO CORPS FROM GLOBETROTTING ENIGMA OF A MAN

BY Mike Tharp

Sun compass.

The British Army used one to guide its vehicles against Rommel's Afrika Corps in Libya and Egypt's western desert in 1942.

And the Los Angeles District used one—maybe by coastal spotters or anti-aircraft artillerymen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula looking for enemy planes and subs after Pearl Harbor.

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**Story continued on page 11.**



***The partially assembled 1944 sun compass in its case.***

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