



The New York District Times

9-11
In honor of
lives lost



Summer 2002

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District

Corps completes WTC debris removal mission

By Vince Elias

The twin towers of the World Trade Center in downtown Manhattan stood more than 1,300 feet tall before terrorists crashed two commandeered jetliners into them Sept. 11, taking the lives of thousands of innocent people.

The imploded buildings created seven stories of debris. Fifteen million square feet of office and retail space were destroyed, and 17 million square feet were lost in nearby damaged buildings.

New York District was extensively involved in the debris removal mission at Ground Zero and in a collaborative effort at the 175-acre landfill on Staten Island since October.

The mountain of debris began to shrink as millions of tons of debris and steel were transported about 20 miles from Ground Zero to the landfill and scrap yards.

The Federal Management Emergency Management Agency sought out the Corps because of debris management experience learned from years of disaster recovery operations.

One of the most challenging jobs, both in size and complexity, was removing the millions of tons of building debris from the World Trade Center complex. This is one area where the expertise of the Corps was tapped immediately. *(continued on page 3)*



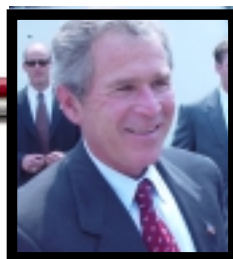
Photos: Randall Hintz

May 2002 - Eight months later the remarkable progress in removing debris from the collapsed World Trade Center towers is evident from the street level.



September 2001 -- One of the most challenging jobs, both in size and complexity, was removing the millions of tons of building debris from the World Trade Center complex.

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Commander and
District Engineer
Col. John B. O'Dowd

Chief, Public Affairs
Peter H. Shugert
peter.h.shugert@usace.army.mil

Editor, Layout & Graphic
Design
Vince Elias
vincent.elias@usace.army.mil

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US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New York District

9-11 WTC recovery operation at Staten Island landfill mission ends

The 10-month effort at the Staten Island Landfill ended July 15 as hundreds assembled at the closing ceremony.

Several officials attended, including New York Senator Charles Schumer, New York Governor George Pataki, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and Col. John B. O'Dowd, District Engineer who supervised the Corps' involvement in the debris management operations.

O'Dowd later spoke with Gov. Pataki, Mayor Bloomberg, Sen. Schumer and Ray Kelly, NYC Police Commissioner as well as the New York police. They all thanked O'Dowd for the Corps' assistance in trying to bring back something to the families of the victims.

O'Dowd was interviewed on the NBC Today show, a story which aired July 15, with subsequent re-broadcasts on MSNBC. He was also interviewed by the Associated Press that resulted in three national wire stories, highlighting the Corps' role, plus German radio, and SRTV for a radio spot.

(Continued on pg. 18)



(Above) Col. John B. O'Dowd, District Engineer addresses the media. **(Below)** The closure ceremony at the Staten Island landfill July 15.



Photos: Peter Shugert and Randall Hintz

(Continued from page 1)

Freon, fuel, and other substances were in the debris. The concrete in the floors and exteriors caused the huge plume of gray dust that choked the city during the towers' collapse. The devastation of the World Trade Center was so powerful that almost no furniture from within the towers survived.

There was an tremendous amount of debris in a relatively small geographic location (310 stories of buildings compressed into a 12-square-block area).

It has been described as "the biggest crime scene in history." The monumental task of removing debris from Ground Zero ended when the final load was removed May 31. Thanks to cost control and close management, the operation was completed \$55 million under budget and months ahead of schedule.

Twenty-four hours a day, work went on at the landfill. New York City had shut down the landfill in 2000, but reopened it for the sole purpose of dealing with the debris removal mission.

USACE mobilized the Advanced Contract Initiative contractor at Ground Zero for technical assistance



The work was an assembly-line operation with grappling derricks hefting twisted steel and huge chunks of concrete from barges onto trucks. The trucks carted the debris from the barges to sorting centers where it was sifted by size.



CENAN Photos

Twenty-four hours a day, work went on at the landfill. New York City had shut down the landfill in 2000, but reopened it for the sole purpose of dealing with the debris removal mission.

before the mission assignment from FEMA. This allowed the ACI contractor, in conjunction with the Corps, to assess the debris removal process, and to become prepared for full mobilization.

The rubble was mainly structural debris from the buildings, and not the trees and residential debris caused by natural disasters that the Corps often tackles.

The landfill operation processed more than 1,345,000 tons of debris. Over 150 people have been identified through material screened at the landfill operations.

Initially, trucks moved the debris through the city to the landfill site.

The Corps suggested improvements, including one-stop stations that could wash down the trucks, tarp the loads, and document load tickets in one efficient operation. Transporting the large amounts of debris through one of the busiest cities in the world was a unique and difficult task. The truck route to the landfill was more than 20 miles, through crowded downtown streets.

(continued on next page)

(Continued from page 3)

Barges were quickly suggested for debris transportation due to the proximity of the Hudson River to the World Trade Center site. The Corps issued permits for emergency dredging to allow the barges to move alongside docks near the disaster site.

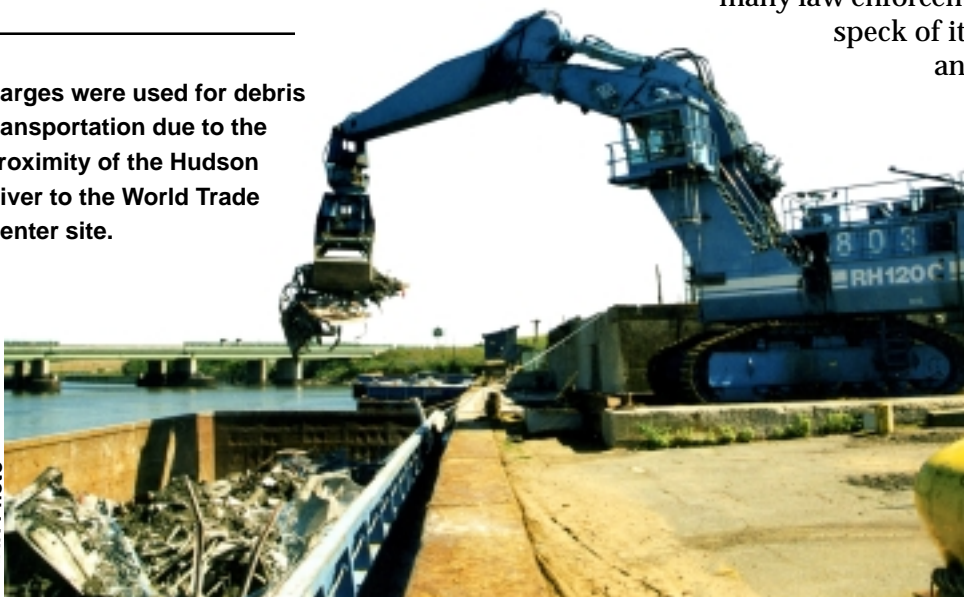
“The project was a success,” said Jim Parks, Chief of Special Projects and coordinator of the project delivery team, now with North Atlantic Division. “It was challenging working with a variety of people from many different locales, working with many different organizations that have different levels of standards,” said Parks. “When we came together as a team there was a camaraderie that will go on for years. What we accomplished has exceeded our expectations.”

Parks, along with Tom Harnedy, Chief of the Construction Management Section, and David Leach, Chief of Construction’s Metro Area Office, were instrumental in the mission’s success of the ‘round-the-clock operation.

At the landfill the Corps continually monitored the air for asbestos and methane gas. Dust and debris was washed off trucks and ensured there was a minimal amount of ground penetration.

New York District lent specific support to the New York Police Department, the FBI, and the New York City Department of Sanitation. The District’s support and assistance staffs included personnel from safety, construction, engineering, contracting, opera-

Barges were used for debris transportation due to the proximity of the Hudson River to the World Trade Center site.



CENAN Photo



Photo: Henry Heusinkveld

Cleaners in respirators and protective clothing search through every piece of rubble at the landfill from Ground Zero.

tions, logistics, and from two other Corps districts — Baltimore and New England.

Leach continuously represented the Corps and federal government’s interest, ensuring contract compliance at the landfill. Leach was known as the mayor of the operation because he brought everyone on the “hill” together for a meeting each workday. He held daily briefings for his staff, the Environmental Protection Agency, FBI, and agencies of New York City and New York State.

Leach also managed the debris flow while many law enforcement agencies analyzed every single speck of it two or three times. The work was an assembly-line operation with grappling derricks hefting twisted steel and huge chunks of concrete from barges onto trucks. The trucks carted the debris from the barges to sorting centers where it was sifted by size.

The Corps cleared a work backlog in just four weeks and brought cooperation among agencies at three levels of government.

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The debris management mission was made considerably more difficult because the landfill was also a crime scene. Hundreds of identification cards, credit cards, driver's licenses and other documents, shoes, books, wallets, pieces of jewelry and clothing were catalogued and shelved.



The imploded buildings created seven stories of debris. Fifteen million square feet of office and retail space were destroyed, and 17 million square feet were lost in nearby damaged buildings.

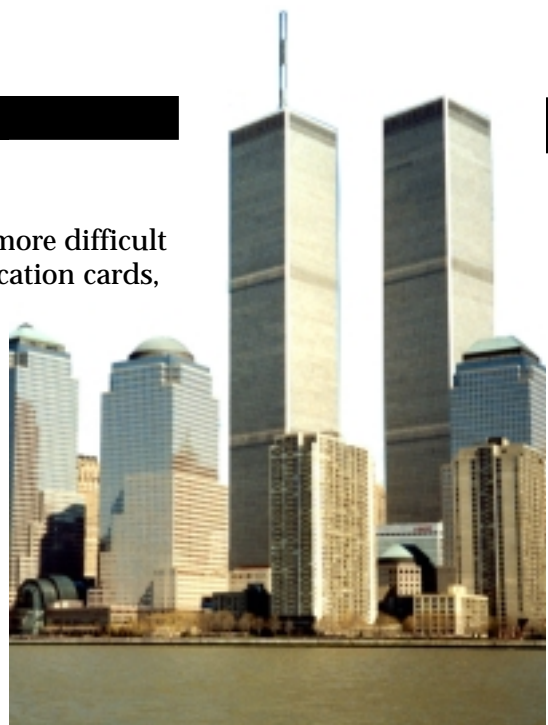


Photo: Peter Shugert

The twin towers of the World Trade Center in downtown Manhattan stood more than 1,300 feet tall before terrorists crashed two commandeered jetliners into them Sept. 11, taking the lives of thousands of innocent people.



Photos: F. T. Eyre

Corps employees donate to FDNY foundation to benefit burn victims

Corps employees continue to open their hearts for an ongoing charity to benefit the New York Firefighter Burn Center Foundation which contributes the donations to the New York Hospital-Cornell Burn Center. The majority of the patients are children from around the nation who have suffered extensive burn injuries.

The FDNY Firefighter Michael Kiefer Fund (www.nyffburncenter.com) was established in the name of District employee Bud Kiefer's son, Michael, a fallen firefighter, whose unit responded to the World Trade Center attacks Sept. 11, 2001. The website contains comprehensive information about the foundation and fund.



Employees of Memphis District hold donation check to the FDNY Firefighter Michael Kiefer Fund. (l-r) Col. Jack V. Scherer, Commander, Memphis District, Barbara Pannell Fowler, Sara Waterbury, Jennifer Thomas, Patty Gray and Castle Club president Doug Young.

**The FDNY Firefighter
Michael Kiefer Fund
c/o The New York Firefighters
Burn Center Foundation
21 Asch Loop, Bronx, NY 10474**

Memphis and Los Angeles Districts were the latest group of generous contributors who raised \$600 and \$1,250 respectively.

District officials attend president's address on NY/NJ port security

A group of ten New York District senior officials attended President Bush's speech on the subject of port security in New York harbor and homeland defense June 24 at the Port Authority terminal in Port Elizabeth, N.J.

Bush spoke about efforts to increase security at seaports.

"We've got to focus our priorities," Bush said. "We've got to set clear goals. If cultures need to be changed within agencies, we'll change the cultures, because this new war of the 21st century requires a hundred-percent focused effort to protect the homeland," he said.

More than 100 agencies involved with the aspects of homeland security will shift from their current agencies to the Cabinet-level department. More than 160,000 federal workers will transfer to the new agency.

"It will make our federal government more responsive. It will allow us to communicate better. It will allow all of you to make sure that the hard hours you're putting in are able to (better) secure the homeland."

Following the speech, Bush stepped off the podium and shook hands with the crowd. "Thank you for everything you do," said Bush as he shook the hand of Col. O'Dowd, District Engineer. "I'm sure glad you're on our side," he said.



Photo: Randall Hintz

President Bush delivers a speech June 24 on port security of New York Harbor and homeland defense at the Port Authority terminal in Port Elizabeth, N.J.

Pipejacking used at Green Brook project

Pipejacking is a method of tunneling used for installing underground pipelines with minimal surface disruption and is an extremely accurate method of installation. Pipejacking is being used at the Green Brook flood control project in New Jersey. "Cylinders are used to push specially designed jacking pipes through the ground behind a steerable shield or tunnel boring machine," said Ken Johnson of Construction Division.

The operator works inside the tunnel boring machine cart where this method of tunneling is carefully executed. The jacking system has a cutter bar recessed behind the cutting edge. In case soil conditions change at the heading, dirt plates or sand shelves are mounted. The heads can be changed for clay, silt, sand, or soft to medium hard rock, or for loose unstable soil.

According to Yvonne Spraggins, project manager, a new, higher bridge is being built to replace the old Main Street bridge which was demolished and will include many of the historic bridge's original features.



Christopher Myers (left) of Construction and Milton Ricks of Engineering at the Greenbrook flood control project. (below) The pipe has a 66 inch steel casing. The casing is then jacked by the tunnel boring machine before a 56 inch sewer line is placed inside.



Photos: Ken Johnson

Superstars 2002

COMMANDER'S AWARD FOR CIVILIAN SERVICE

JOSEPH REDICAN
Engineer of the Year

DONNA CAMISHION
Commander's Assistant of the Year

BEN BAKER
Professional of the Year

SIBANI MALLIK
Administrator of the Year

BETZAIDA ANDUJAR
Professional of the Year

BETZAIDA ANDUJAR
Administrator of the Year

JOSEPH HIRSCHY
Supervisor of the Year

BETZAIDA ANDUJAR
Star Award

MICHAEL JOHNSON
Field Representative of the Year

FRANCO DICROCE
Outstanding Government Improvement Award

ELIZABETH FINN
Wage Grade Employee of the Year

WESLEY TERRY
Outstanding Government Improvement Award

JENINE GALLO
Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award

MATTHEW LUDWIG
Health and Safety Award

TEAM OF THE YEAR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ALAN WILLIAMS
Leadership Award

Betzaida Andujar
Annette Austin
Johnny Butler
Joseph Hirschy
Bienvenida Jusay
Robert Moore
Yadira Rivera-Villegas
Barbara Taylor
Monique Wiggins
Pamela Wright

NEW YORK CITY FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD AWARDS

JEROME SEIF
Chairman's Award for Continuous Excellence

ROBERT GOUZE
Chairman's Award for Direct Service



RETIREMENT AWARD

MAJ. KALLY EASTMAN
Army Commendation Medal
Meritorious Service Medal
Bronze Defleury Medal
CinC Certificate of Appreciation



COMMANDER'S CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

RITA FISHER
U.S. Savings Bonds

LILIANA CORREA
Red Cross Blood Drive

GUSTAVO SIERRA-GONZALEZ
Combined Federal Campaign

Combined Federal Campaign Representatives:

Norman Blumenstein	Michael Murphy
Christina Broscioso	Arlene Petrosino
Grace Collins	Sandra Pickett
George Colon	Annete Ross
Gregory Faison	Raymond Schembri
Maritza Lopez	Debra Smith
Patricia McDonnell	



Welcome

Todd Hunter, engineering technician
Devin Kopf, engineering technician
Jean Lau, clerk
Pamala Lynch, biologist
Vega Medina, civil engineer
Christopher Myers, civil engineer
Nilay Modi, engineering technician
Keith McDermott, laborer
Floyd McGurk, civil engineer
Michael Orgeta, mechanical engineer
Aleksander Patersen, general engineer
Aaron Shipman, engineering technician
Andrea Shoulders, civil engineer
Theodore Toothaker, laborer
Amanda Vernaglia, survey technician
Marcques Washington, survey technician
Karen Battipaglia, engineering technician
Carolina Bautista, engineering technician
Carlos Borrero, deckhand
Karen Cadeumag, clerk
Amelia Curto, biological science technician
Michael Delia, laborer
Carissa Derooy, archeologist
John Dicostanzo, engineering aide
Dionne Dooker, biologist
Cameron Evans, surveying aide
Douglas Florek, survey technician
Dale Gamache, realty specialist
Lee George, survey aide
Tiffany Gordon, engineering technician
Jeffrey Gross, civil engineer
Gloria Huapaya, engineering technician

Transactions



Dresser takes the reins of Real Estate Division

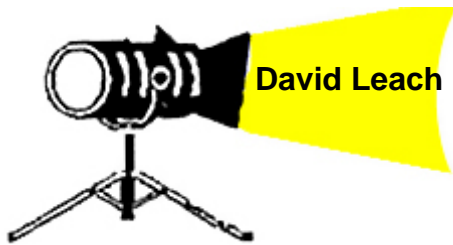
Dean Dresser
Chief, Real Estate Division



Byrne steers Construction Division on a steady course

Gerald Byrne
Chief, Construction Division

Spotlight



They executed a FEMA mission that set up and operated the equivalent of a base camp on the hill of the landfill. The Corps' contractor worked in partnership with many Federal, State, and city law enforcement, public safety and other agencies, 33 in all. Taken to the landfill was 1,345,000 tons of debris.

Leach held daily briefing for his staff and other participants.

Leach was able to manage the debris while many law enforcement agencies analyzed every single speck of it two or three times. Over one hundred people have been identified through material found during landfill screening operations. He cleared up a work backlog in just four weeks.

The debris management mission was considerably more difficult because the landfill was also a crime scene. By including others in his project management strategy, he was able to make the operation work better. Leach is a model for fostering teamwork, creating synergistic relationships and making vitally important work go more quickly and smoothly.

David Leach, New York District, was one of many Corps employees working on the response to the 9-11 attacks against America. The Corps was called in immediately to assist FEMA and the City of New York. Survey and debris boats ferried victims away and structural engineers advised and assisted.

FEMA assigned a \$125 million mission to the Corps October 1 for operation of the Staten Island landfill. Leach was assigned as Area Engineer with the New York District's Construction Division, overseeing work by the USACE pre-placed debris management contractor, Phillips & Jordan of Nashville, Tenn.



30-second commercial

Nuree Aziza Sarkar



Nuree Aziza Sarkar joined New York District in January as a civil engineer in the Corps' Federal Career Intern Program. The FCIP is designed to expose interns to a variety of fields within the Corps.

As an FCIP intern, Sarkar will complete a two-year internship, and upon successful completion, she will be advanced to a permanent position on a non-competitive basis. Initially Sarkar worked in the Construction Division. She is now in the field where she will be rotated to four other departments. "The FCIP is a superb program that provides an entry-level employee an opportunity for self-initiative," said Sarkar. "In the long run, successful graduates can deliver the services the Corps needs."

Sarkar gained a great deal of information about the Corps through her own resourcefulness, primarily through the USACE website.

Of particular interest to Sarkar is the Green Brook Flood Control Project. "The project should not only be of special interest to me, but also to anyone else who sympathizes for the victims of natural disasters," she said.

Sarkar plans on obtaining her professional engineer license and taking on greater responsibilities and achieving great things to enhance the Corps. "I am very pleased to be with the Corps, in particular when I consider that my assignments gravitate towards improving the lives of people," said Sarkar. "This blends in perfectly with my firm desire to put my comprehension of engineering to beneficial use," she said.

(Profile by JoAnne Castagna)

DE gets up-close look at civil works projects

By JoAnne Castagna

Col. John B. O'Dowd, District Engineer spent time on the road visiting New York District projects and observing the progress of work being done. "I wanted to meet all of the folks involved with the projects and to see the projects at work." He observed the District's civil works "water" projects with the Elizabeth River flood control project first on the itinerary.

Flooding along the Elizabeth River in New Jersey has increased over the years due to intense development. The project will reduce flooding while maintaining the fish and wildlife resources in the region.

O'Dowd viewed a temporary bridge that spans the Green Brook in the Borough of Bound Brook. The old bridge was demolished and a higher bridge is being built, scheduled for completion in October 2002.

The Oakland flood control project runs along 3.3 miles of the Ramapo River in New Jersey. The backwater effect on the Ramapo River produced by the Pompton Lake Dam and narrow channels pro-



George Fedoriw, project engineer discusses the Elizabeth River project with Col. O'Dowd and project team members William Slezak, Civil Branch, PPMD; Mark Cundiff, construction contractor, Merco, Inc.; and Gerald Byrne, Area Engineer for New Jersey, Construction Division.

duces flooding in the area. O'Dowd toured the project and surveyed the upper river channel, where dewatering, channel excavation and rip-rap placement were in progress.

The Kill van Kull navigation improvement project involves deepening the waterway to accommodate mega-container ships. The Kill van Kull links Port Newark and Port Elizabeth, New Jersey, to the New York Bay. O'Dowd witnessed every aspect of channel construction that included drilling, blasting, and dredging rock and sediment. "He surveyed our seismic monitoring process and observed a blast," said David Leach, area engineer.

O'Dowd said that the projects he visited are meeting, and some are exceeding, expectations. "In spite of the events of Sept. 11, all of the projects stayed on track and some are ahead of schedule."



District Engineer signs Port Monmouth design agreement

The Port Monmouth, NJ Project Team is ready to begin pre-construction engineering and design activities after the NJDEP and Corps signed their Design Agreement May 6.

The project will provide structural solutions for the flood-prone community including levees, floodwalls, closure structures, interior drainage features and dune and beach fill and nourishment.



The Port Monmouth, NJ Project Team (left to right) Ellen Simon, Office of Counsel; Ronald Brattain, Planning; Paul Sabalis, Planning; John Killeen, Planning; Thomas Pfeifer, Planning; John O'Connor, Project Management; Gail Woolley, Planning; Mark Burlas, Planning; and Col. John O'Dowd, District Engineer.

Photo: Vince Elias

Fleet arrives in New York City

Warships from around the world, troops, and military aircraft arrived in New York City for the week of May 22-28 to participate in Fleet Week 2002.

New York District employees reserved seats on the decks of the Corps vessels *Driftmaster* and *Gelberman* where the maritime enthusiasts received a close-up view of the parade of ships in New York Harbor.

The *Driftmaster* can safely accommodate 60 employees and *Gelberman* can safely accommodate 40.

Over twenty Navy and Coast Guard ships as well as ships from Canada and Denmark visited New York Harbor during Fleet Week. Active military personnel from all branches of the armed services joined in a tribute to the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country.



Photo: Peter Shugert



District spectators gathered on deck aboard the *Driftmaster* and *Gelberman* for the parade of ships during Fleet Week 2002.



WTC commemorative jackets and coins presented to employees

During the month of May, blue and red World Trade Center commemorative jackets were distributed to District employees for pride and public service displayed during and after Sept. 11, 2001.

“During the national tragedy New York displayed characteristics which truly reflected pride in public service,” wrote Col. John B. O’Dowd, District Engineer in the letter which accompanied each jacket.

“Your resiliency and completion of the District’s mission in the aftermath of Sept. 11 was representative of New York District’s can-do spirit and was appreciated by the entire Corps of Engineers.”



North Atlantic Division commemorative WTC coin. (Design by Vince Elias)

Also awarded to the employees directly involved in the WTC operations was a World Trade Center commemorative coin from North Atlantic Division.

District WTC commemorative Jacket logo. (Designed by Fernando Bautista).



DE addresses officials, public and media on harbor project

Col. John B. O'Dowd, District Engineer addressed the public and the media at a press conference that announced a multi-agency effort for the New York harbor deepening project.

The press conference was held May 17 in Bayonne, N.J. New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey presided and announced efforts to accelerate work on the deepening project. Also in attendance were Representatives Robert Menendez and Rodney Frelinghuysen as well as various other local elected officials.

A record of decision approved by the Corps to deepen channel projects in the Port of New York of New York and New Jersey and to move forward was announced. This includes the design phase, operational agreements and ultimately, construction to achieve the goal of reaching a 50-foot depth to accommodate the present generation of larger ships with deeper drafts.

"The Corps has a 150-year history with the Port of New York and New Jersey," said O'Dowd. By continuing to work together, we can achieve our vision of

Deepening the port

The Port of New York and New Jersey holds tremendous economic significance to the region:

- Largest port on the east coast of the U.S. and third largest container port in the U.S.
- Largest petroleum product port in the U.S.
- Serves 37 million people within 250 miles.
- Major vehicle port: 300,000 imports, 100,000 exports each year.

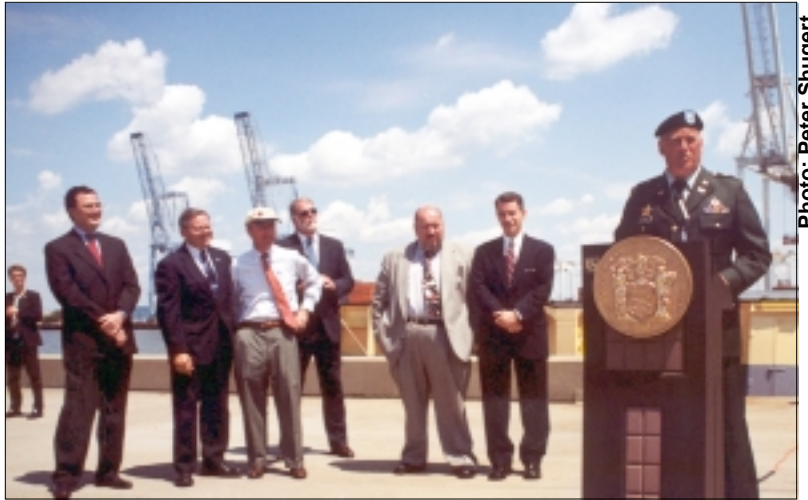


Photo: Peter Shugert

Col. John B. O'Dowd, District Engineer addresses the public and the media at a press conference May 17 in Bayonne, N.J.

a world class estuary for the region," he said.

The formalized project agreement will allow the Corps to initiate construction on the Port Jersey project and continue with the engineering and design phase on the 50-foot channel deepening project.



Harbor deepening projects are due to begin in 2004. The channels to be deepened include:

- Ambrose Channel
- Anchorage Channel
- Kill van Kull
- Newark Bay
- Elizabeth Channel
- South Elizabeth Channel
- Arthur Kill
- Port Jersey Channel
- Bay Ridge Channel

Corps kids spend day with parents at the grindstone

New York District's annual Bring Your Kids to Work Day was once again a huge hit with Corps kids. The event has become one of many New York District annual EEO programs that has grown in popularity.

Overseeing this year's event was EEO specialist Victoria Gross. "It was a spectacular program this year," said Gross. "This year's group of young children were very enthusiastic and eager to participate."

According to Gross, the children spent almost the entire workday with their parents, learning what they do throughout the day.

Abe Portalatin of Safety outfitted the children with safety equipment that is worn by engineers in the field, and Sharoyah Bala of Security demonstrated how fingerprints are taken for computer-generated identification cards.

"We are looking at next year's event to be bigger, with plans for a group field project visit if possible," said Gross.



Sharoyah Bala of Security (left) demonstrates how to take fingerprints for identification cards. Abe Portalatin (below) of the Safety Office outfitted the children with safety gear.



Photos: Victoria Gross

Corps sponsors student art exhibit

Art students from Horace Greeley Intermediate School 10 recently had their visual art creations on exhibit at the Javits Federal Building recently. The exhibit, titled, "Posters of Hope," consists of a variety and sizes and renderings of the World Trade Center twin towers that were destroyed in September 2001.

"The 7th and 8th grade students plunged into a series of art projects designed to uplift the human spirit in the aftermath of such devastation," said Vincent Perrera, art chairman of IS 10 and employee of New York District. The art remained on display through June. According to Perrera, the students have begun working on new art creations for an exhibit titled, "Visions of the new WTC," which is scheduled to be unveiled later this year.



Col. John O'Dowd speaks with art students from Horace Greeley Intermediate School at their art exhibit at Federal Plaza near ground zero.

Photo: Peter Shugert

Military Programs



New soldier and Family Support Center consolidates services

The \$20 million 125,000 square foot Family Support Center construction project at Fort Drum, Watertown, N.Y. is nearly completed. The contractor is Northland Associates, Inc. The facility consolidates all soldier and family support functions now in separate buildings throughout the base into one central building housing 600 military and civilian employees.

The two-story center will house activities associated with personnel in/out processing for soldiers and their families.

Included in the design are a 200-seat auditorium and several multi-use meeting rooms. Other services in the building will include medical, dental, transportation, legal, and postal services.

Design meetings were conducted with the Corps, Fort Drum representatives, and Beardsley Design Associates, who provided design services for the center and who developed the building configuration and layout.



Photos: Matthew Walsh

The consolidated soldier and family support center, Fort Drum, N.Y.

Renovations underway at Forts Hamilton and Wadsworth

Construction of military facilities has been taking shape on both sides of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge in the boroughs of Brooklyn and Staten Island at the historic Forts Hamilton and Wadsworth.

In Brooklyn, at Fort Hamilton, the Corps is involved in renovating buildings 113 and 135 at the oldest and most historic installation in the Army.



(Above) Renovations of building 113 are ongoing at Fort Hamilton and (left) newly-completed Army Reserve Center at Fort Wadsworth.



“The Corps is working on a number of infrastructure improvements at Fort Hamilton and at Fort Wadsworth,” said Matthew Walsh, project manager.

“Facilities for the large community it serves at Fort Hamilton have recently also included improvements to the community club and at the housing units,” said Walsh.

On Staten Island at Fort Wadsworth, the Corps is adding the finishing touches to the U.S. Army Reserve Center. “The Reserve Center has underwent extensive renovations for the past six months,” said Walsh.

Fort Wadsworth was the linchpin to the defense of New York for nearly two centuries and now is home for the tenant activities of the Federal departments of the Interior, Transportation and Logistics Agencies. Fort Hamilton and Fort Wadsworth serve the New York region’s large retired and reserve communities and headquarters one of the busiest of the Army’s recruiting battalions.

Corps implements 'CorpsPath'

By JoAnne Castagna

Through the use of video, voice, sound, text, graphics, information resources, and self-assessments, CorpsPath was developed. CorpsPath was designed to assist employees to be more productive and satisfied in their careers with the Corps.

CorpsPath was initiated by Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, Chief of Engineers for a way for the Corps to have a common language and understanding of Corps values, missions, beliefs and business processes.

New York District is taking full advantage of CorpsPath to move the project management business practices process forward. According to Debra Smith, Human Resources, a project delivery team and a project management plan for CorpsPath was created and was the first PMP of its type in New York District.

New York District's implementation of CorpsPath is receiving praise. Margaret Tindal-Fisher, employee development specialist, USACE, noted the District is being proactive and innovative in its approach to CorpsPath.

The CorpsPath program is mandatory for all Corps employees. New York District employees are required to complete the program by Aug. 1.

Employees are scheduled to attend program training in groups, to be facilitated by their supervisors. Employees will view and complete the program via the intranet, the internal District web site. The program includes 5 focus areas: Capable Workforce, Knowledge Management, Business Process, Corporate Relationships, and Army Support. These areas are contained in 14 separate modules and take 30 minutes each



Portal to your success: CorpsPath

to complete. The time expended will be charged to overhead funding.

The modules include self-assessments, discussion questions, information resources, and an option to view the program in text format (closed caption) and a note pad for jotting and printing out responses to the self assessments and discussion questions.

After completing each module, supervisors are to conduct group discussions with their employees and go over questions and provide employees with an opportunity to ask questions, address work issues and receive feedback from their supervisor and co-workers.

CorpsPath will provide employees an opportunity to hold professional face to face discussions with their supervisors and to develop a better understanding and foundation of their roles in the organization, understanding the mission, and how their job fits into the big picture.



Homeland Security Agency creates color-coded security advisory system

The Homeland Security Advisory System is an effective means to disseminate information regarding the risk of terrorist attacks.

The advisory system will be the foundation for building a comprehensive communications structure for the dissemination of information regarding the risk of terrorist attacks.

District goes to the birds

There is evidence that navigation and fowl are co-existing in New York Harbor. During a recent harbor inspection, the crew of the Corps vessel *Hocking* spotted hundreds of common terns nesting in a 300-foot garbage barge. The harbor has rebounded in the past decade, and small fish that many birds eat have returned. The barge is floating in the middle of the harbor and is the temporary home for about 100 common terns who have taken up residency.

The tern is a threatened bird species. The Corps will have to wait until the birds migrate in the autumn before the scow can be used or necessary repairs made, according to Joe Seebode, chief of harbor programs. "The fisheries have come back moored, and the birds that feed on them have come back," said Seebode.

In addition to the terns, herons, cormorants and ospreys, have been seen in increased numbers over the past few years.

The barge is one of two used by New York District to collect debris in the harbor.

Cormorants were sighted nesting on a buoy, and ospreys were spotted nesting on pier pillars -- all now a common site in the port. New York District recognizes the interdependence of life and the physical environment -- one of the seven environmental operating principles of the Corps.



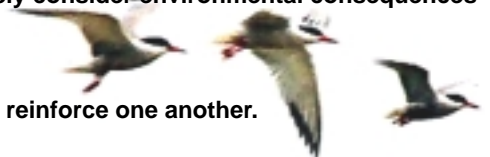
Nesting time -- During a recent harbor inspection, cormorants were spotted nesting on a buoy, an osprey nesting on an old pier piling and terns nesting in a garbage scow.



Photos: Peter Shugert

Corps Environmental Operating Principles

- 1 Strive to achieve environmental sustainability. An environment maintained in a healthy, diverse, and sustainable condition is necessary to support life.
- 2 Recognize the interdependence of life and the physical environment. Proactively consider environmental consequences of Corps programs and act accordingly in all appropriate circumstances.
- 3 Seek balance and synergy among human development activities and natural systems by designing economic and environmental solutions that support and reinforce one another.
- 4 Continue to accept corporate responsibility and accountability under the law for activities and decisions under our control that impact human health and welfare and the continued viability of natural systems.
- 5 Seek ways and means to assess and mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment; bring systems approaches to the full life cycle of our processes and work.
- 6 Build and share an integrated scientific, economic and social knowledge base that supports a greater understanding of the environment and impacts of our work.
- 7 Respect the views of individuals and groups interested in Corps activities; listen to them actively, and learn from their perspective in the search to find innovative win-win solutions to the Nation's problems that also protect and enhance the environment.



District deckhand sets his 'Dreams in Motion'

By JoAnne Castagna

When Corps deckhand Billy Fort isn't setting out on a vessel into the New York Harbor, he is setting his singing career in motion. "Dreams in Motion!" is the name of his first music CD which was a demo that includes a mix of pop, ballad, and dance songs. Fort has written and produced 35 songs.

Fort is referred to as Frankie on the waterfront by his colleagues because of his resemblance to the young Frank Sinatra and 1950s James Dean look.

The hard working crewmember works at Caven Point Marine Terminal, New York District's waterfront facility in Jersey City, N.J. where the District's fleet of survey, drift collecting and utility boats is docked. Fort is a deckhand on the *Dobrin*. Fort assists Captain Mike Marcello, in hydrographic surveys and is involved with transporting dignitaries during harbor project inspections.

The talented musician said his work with the Corps inspired his music. "I won't quit my day job," he said. He enjoys being on the water, while continuing to pursue his interest in music. "If you have a dream, make a plan and follow that plan," he said.

Fort was one of several district personnel who boarded Corps vessels, that headed to lower Manhattan following the Sept. 11, terrorist attack on New York City.

Inspired by his experience during 9-11, Fort is writing a song. "It is about how human beings treat one another and the future of humanity," he said. "Time goes by fast. You can't have this time back so enjoy yourself and do what pleases you."

One of his song titles says it all – "Carpe Diem!" – Seize the Day! Fort has created a web site where his music can be download at: www.billyfort.com.



Photos: Alan Dorfman

Billy Fort with Gen. John M. Keane, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army in the pilot house of the Corps vessel *Hatton*.



Billy Fort working hard aboard the Corps vessel *Dobrin* at Caven Point Marine Terminal, New York District's waterfront facility in Jersey City, N.J.



Fort wrote and produced the music CD 'Dreams in Motion' that contains a mix of pop, ballad, and dance songs.

Newsroom

Pilot workshop held to promote program

New York District held a pilot mentor workshop July 11. The workshop was designed for future mentors and current mentees and focused on career opportunities, responsibilities and objectives.

Ten volunteers have joined the program. Mentors at one time or another had role models themselves who served as mentors in their field of expertise, and wanted to serve as mentors to others. Mentees at the workshop volunteered to learn about the mission of New York District and information relating to their individual career growth.

Rhonda Rhynes, of the Human Resources Division, USACE, conducted the workshop and instructed the group on a variety of topics relating to their roles as mentors and mentees.

The pilot program is scheduled to last one year. It is organized by New York District's Human Resources Office, the Corporate Board, and several union members.



Congressional chiefs of staff get underway with New York District

New York District chiefs, New York Congressional chiefs of staff, and other guests recently spent an afternoon underway in New York Harbor. The purpose of the harbor excursion was to observe several of the Corps' projects in the harbor and port.



Task force soldiers re-up at Ground Zero

Twenty-three members of the West Point summer task force re-enlisted July 4 at Ground Zero in Manhattan. Three hundred other members of the task force attended the ceremony along with some family members.

Task Force soldiers come to West Point annually to assist with summer training, which runs from late June through mid-August. This year the soldiers are mostly 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) units from the Fort Campbell, Ky., 3rd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment.

Task force 3-327 commander, Lt. Col. Edmund Palekas, said the idea for the re-enlistment at Ground Zero came from a feeling within his troops that they wanted to do something to show support for their brothers from the 3rd Brigade, 101st, who are currently stationed in Afghanistan. *(News and photo by Jim Fox, USMA West Point)*



(Continued from page 2)

9-11 WTC recovery operation ends at Staten Island landfill

The 10-month effort that turned the Staten Island landfill into one of history's biggest crime scenes came to an end July 15 as hundreds assembled at a solemn closing ceremony.

For the past 10 months, trucks and barges hauled a total of 1.62 million tons of debris from Ground Zero in downtown Manhattan to the Staten Island Landfill. It was a 24-hours a day, seven days a week operation.

"Workers expressed mixed emotions as the job ended," said O'Dowd. "It was really kind of a nasty job.

It was not very pleasant, what they had to do," O'Dowd said. "On the other hand, the people that worked there worked under some pretty trying conditions, and that tends to bring people close together." O'Dowd said the focus during the work always was "to bring something home to the families of those that were lost."

The landfill was reactivated after being closed in March 2001. It became a beehive of activity where heavy-lift equipment bustled and tons of debris were examined daily at the height of the mission.

The landfill on Staten Island was the final stop for the World Trade Center debris where it was examined on huge conveyer belts. The Corps was pivotal in mechanizing and improving efficiency in the landfill operations since taking the lead in the debris recovery mission.

The operation was an extraordinary assignment for the Corps and uncharted ground for most agencies at the site. The Corps received the \$125 million debris mission from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Oct. 1, expending approximately \$63 million of that amount.

The Corps managed the operations at the 160-acre site, known as "The Hill" and established mea-



Photo: Peter Shugert

Officials on the dais face workers and victims' family members assembled at the Staten Island landfill closing ceremony.

asures to protect the safety of the workers and facilitate the recovery effort. Working with NYPD, FBI, EPA and the Dept. of Sanitation, the Corps provided the necessary support to these organizations as well as 28 other agencies involved in the recovery investigation.

(continued on next page)



For the past 10 months, trucks and barges hauled a total of 1.62 million tons of debris from ground zero in downtown Manhattan to the Staten Island Landfill.

Landfill (cont'd.)

The Corps, through its prime contractor Phillips and Jordan Inc., mechanized the operation by providing labor, heavy equipment, conveyor belts, screening equipment, temporary structures for warming and storage, worker decontamination facilities, and food service facilities. This yielded an effective system for law enforcement personnel performing the investigation safely with health and food services that improved the quality of life for investigators.

“There were a lot of Corps people supporting the contract and operations in varying degrees,”



Equipment was dismantled and trailer facilities permanently closed, signalling an end to the recovery efforts at the landfill.

The 160-acre landfill became a beehive of activity where heavy-lift equipment bustled and debris was examined by over 1,000 workers who processed 7,000 tons of debris a day at the height of the mission.



Photos: Cryptome

said Tom Harnedy, Chief of the Construction Management Section who oversaw the contract administration. David Leach, Chief of Construction's Metro Area Office was lead engineer on-site for supervising and coordinating operations.

“In essence the mission was a humanitarian effort to recover the human remains and personal belongings of those lost in the tragedy and return them to their families and loved ones” said Leach.

Until the Corps installed a system of machinery and conveyor belts to sort the refuse, workers examined debris by hand and rake. This streamlined the operation and facilitated an expeditious method that increased the amount of rubble being hauled and examined.

Approximately 1.7 million manhours were expended with only one lost-time accident, an incredible safety record given the level of activity at the site. The site safety committee was instrumental in the overall success of the safety program. Daily safety meetings were held and attended by all agencies involved. Teamwork, issue resolution, effective communication, collaborative decision making were key.

Some 52,000 pieces of personal property were recovered and 4,200 body parts were found at the landfill resulting in the identification of many victims according to the New York City Police Department.



Tidbits

By Mary Stavina

Did you know?

The Corps has been engaged in various disaster recovery operations since 1882.

When the Mississippi River floods of 1882 forced thousands from their homes, Corps of Engineers steamboats ferried scores of people to safety and delivered tons of desperately needed supplies to stranded refugees. That effort marked the beginning of the Corps' formal disaster recovery efforts.

In the decades that followed, the Corps responded to dozens of other disasters including the San Francisco earthquake in 1906 and the Texas City explosion in 1947. In each case Corps personnel were among the first to the scene to help care for the injured and protect lives and property.

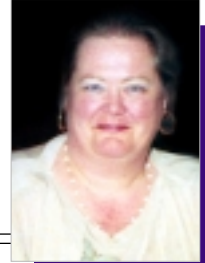
(From a USACE historical vignette)

Congratulations!



Shameika and Taneika Taylor, twin daughters of Barbara Taylor of RM who graduated from Duke and Yale Universities, respectively.

Farewell and good luck to Susan Land of Resource Management who retired in June following a stellar career with the Corps.



Taps

Former New York District Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Richard Mayo passed away in June. He served as Deputy Commander and Deputy District Engineer from 1982 to 1985. He graduated from the USMA in 1962, and served as an engineer officer until his retirement in 1985. He leave his wife, Toni and seven children.

Safety line



and Security Note

Be watchful at all times. If you observe any suspicious behavior or activity, report it to Security, and while in the street to local law enforcement officials. All personnel who are scheduled to travel overseas on TDY/PCS are reminded of the requirements that you must obtain a country clearance, health briefing, and updated anti-terrorist briefing. Contact the Security Office immediately upon being notified that you may be going OCONUS. Country clearances need to be submitted 30 days in advance.



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New York District

CENAN-PA

Jacob K. Javits Building

New York, NY 10278-0090

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