## **Clear The Way**

By Major General R.L. Van Antwerp Commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School



can't tell you how much we enjoyed having you at ENFORCE this year. From my view, there was an excellent exchange of ideas and a hearty celebration of our Regiment and the accomplishments of our sappers and engineers. We were blessed because you came, and we're already looking forward to next year!

Approximately 500 senior leaders attended the conference—leaders from active duty, reserve, and National Guard; the Army Corps of Engineers; civilians from the Army Corps of Engineers; retired civilians and general officers; and engineer representatives from industry. Engineers from the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps all sent se-

nior leaders, and delegates from Germany, France, Australia, Canada, and Great Britain attended as well. A big thank-you to all who did the heavy lifting and made it special.

We were honored to have a wide variety of speakers at the conference: General Kevin Byrnes, Commanding General of TRADOC; Lieutenant General Bob Flowers, our Chief; Major General Richard Wightman, Joint Warfighting Center, U.S. Joint Forces Command Deputy Commander; Major General David Melcher, Director of Program Analysis and Evaluation Directorate of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G8; Major General Ron Johnson, Commanding General, U.S. Deputy to the Program Management Office, Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq; Colonels John Peabody and Gregg Martin and a great international panel of Colonel John W. Shanahan OBE, United Kingdom; Captain William C. McKerall, U.S. Navy; Colonel Bill Sowry, Australia; Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Funkhouser, U.S. Army; and Major Keith Cameron, Canada.

The Regiment focused on how our Future Engineer Force will be designed to support joint and multinational operations. We were able to pull together the senior leadership and take a close look at how the Engineer Regiment needs to change to meet the structure of the Army of the future. The conference



breakout sessions were a great success in giving our developments folks the input they need from the field to plan the Future Engineer Force structure as a modular force. During the multinational operations breakout session, foreign-service delegates discussed common problems and concerns and proposed solutions. They also talked about engineer equipment and capabilities.

At ENFORCE we set the stage to move toward a jointly trained and equipped engineer force capable of organizing and deploying to any area of operations and employing separately or as a joint force in support of the combatant commander. We need to become more efficient. We can all

benefit from financial savings if we purchase equipment together or use one contractor or supplier. We are exploring ideas to find a way for the branches of service to work together better, even to the point of proposing an engineer joint training center. Ideally, we want a force that is made up of four services that are trained alike, equipped alike, and capable of supporting the warfighter in whatever way he needs.

As this also becomes my farewell article, I challenge you to continue this transformation and rebuilding that we've begun. Much of what we're learning has been paid for by the sweat and blood of engineer soldiers. There have been times when the "book solution" didn't always work, but innovative and adaptive engineers found a way to get it done right anyway. Much of that was captured at ENFORCE and will be analyzed through the Center for Army Lessons Learned.

As we remembered our fallen comrades in the historic World War II chapel next to our memorial grove, I thought of the great legacy we have and the sacrifices that have been made in our ranks. We owe it to them to do our very best for them and for our Army. Our Regiment is strong because they and you—make it so. The sapper spirit is alive and well. Essayons!

First Lieutenant Doyle Hufstedler Specialist Sean Mitchell Specialist Michael Karr Private First Class Cleston Raney Private Brandon Davis Specialist Richard Trevithick Sergeant Brian Wood Staff Sergeant Abraham Penamedina Specialist Isaac Nieves Staff Sergeant Oscar Vargas-Medina Specialist Ramon Ojeda Specialist Ervin Caradine 1st Engineer Battalion, Fort Riley, Kansas 9th Engineer Battalion, Schweinfurt, Germany 20th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas 82d Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas 82d Engineer Battalion, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 84th Engineer Battalion, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 91st Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas Private Jeremy Drexler Private First Class William Strange Specialist Kyle Brinlee Specialist Christopher Gelineau Specialist Philip Brown Specialist James Holmes Specialist James Holmes Specialist Dennis Morgan Sergeant Cory Brooks Private First Class Thomas Caughman Specialist Doron Chan Private First Class James Parker Private First Class Bert Hoyer 91st Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas 91st Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas 120th Engineer Battalion, Pryor, Oklahoma 133d Engineer Battalion, Gardiner, Maine 141st Engineer Battalion, Jamestown, North Dakota 153d Engineer Battalion, Hettinger, North Dakota 153d Engineer Battalion, Winner, South Dakota 153d Engineer Battalion, Winner, South Dakota 391st Engineer Battalion, Spartanburg, South Carolina 411th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas 652d Engineer Company, Ellsworth, Wisconsin

## **Lead The Way** By Command Sergeant Major Clinton J. Pearson

By Command Sergeant Major Clinton J. Pearson U.S. Army Engineer School

would like to take this opportunity to thank the command team of the 1st Engineer Brigade for their efforts in making ENFORCE 2004 the success that it was. Under the leadership of Colonel Paul Kelly and Command Sergeant Major Gerald Jones, the soldiers and civilians of the brigade showed their dedication to the mission by working tirelessly throughout the weeks leading up to and during the conference. And thanks to the Army Engineer Association (AEA) for its hours of support throughout the week. A special thanks goes to Mrs. Nancy Gregory and her team in our Executive Services Office for their work. Thanks for all you continue to do for our great Regi-

ment and for making ENFORCE 2004 such a success.

Among the many events that took place during ENFORCE was the annual Council of Command Sergeants Major. It was great to see so many representatives from across the Regiment. Briefings ranged from Command Sergeant Major Michael Cline (5th Engineer Battalion) and Command Sergeant Major Greg Glen (555th Engineer Group) speaking on lessons learned from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, to Master Sergeant Sean Conner (Sapper Leader Course Non-commissioned Officer in Charge) giving a course update, to Master Sergeant Michael Bergeron and Staff Sergeant Richard Cook briefing on mine/countermine and the Mine Dog Section.

In concert with our ENFORCE theme, *Forging our Future* - *Shaping Engineers for Joint and Multinational Operations*, we were fortunate to have briefers from our sister services. Master Sergeant Frank Miller (U.S. Marine Corps), Master Chief Thomas Babb (U.S. Navy), and Chief Master Sergeant Steven Fraher (U.S. Air Force) provided updates that will bridge the gap between engineer capabilities in all services as our armed forces move into a new era of joint operations.

One of the most debated briefings came from Lieutenant Colonel Bryan Watson. It drew a mixture of support and dissent when he spoke on the Future Engineer Force, based on the White Paper on that subject. It is my sincere hope that we left this briefing with a better understanding that the Regiment must change now to support the combatant commander. The White Paper, which articulates our vision for the Future Engineer Force, is consistent with the Army's transformation to a joint and expeditionary force.

Activities the rest of the week included the AEA Golf Scramble and the annual AEA luncheon. Honored guests at the luncheon were Major General Jack Waggener (Retired) and Command Sergeant Major Jack Butler (Retired), our outgoing Honorary Colonel and Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment. Receiving their charge as the incoming Honorary Colonel and Command Sergeant Major were Major General Pat Stevens (Retired) and Command Sergeant Major LeRoy Mello (Retired). Both were formally recognized at the 15th Engineer Regimental Dinner. We were fortunate to have Mr. Don Stivers, who unveiled his first-ever engineer print. Titled The Command Team, the print depicts the relationship between commander, command sergeant major, and their soldiers as they

prepare to cross the line of departure.

This year's Regimental Review/Regimental Muster featured a special tribute to Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers, 50th Chief of Engineers. Unbeknown to General Flowers, when the adjutant gave the command "Officers and Colors, Post," the colors from all of General Flowers' previous units posted to the side of the reviewing stand. Also, during the "Pass and Review," General Flowers was joined on the reviewing stand by his wife Linda and honors were rendered to the entire Flowers family for all of their years of service, support, and dedication to the Engineer Regiment and the Army. They will surely be missed when he retires this summer.

The most explosive event was the Sapper Leader Course demonstration after the Regimental Run. We also introduced a "Best Sapper" competition that will be held at Fort Leonard Wood on 22-25 April 2005. Select and train your best sapper team for this new annual competition.

Among those honored at the Regimental Dinner were the recipients of this year's Regimental Awards. See page 30 for a list of the active duty, reserve, and National Guard winners. Congratulations to all of these outstanding sappers.

We took the time to honor our fallen sappers during a solemn memorial ceremony at the Engineer Memorial Grove. Lieutenant Colonel Tony Funkhouser and Command Sergeant Major Michael Cline, command team of the 5th Engineer Battalion, recited the names of all our engineer comrades who have given their lives in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. This somber event served as a reminder that freedom isn't free. We are forever in their debt, and our thoughts and prayers are with the families of every soldier who has paid the ultimate sacrifice. We continue to pray for those soldiers who are deployed in harm's way.



