



**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Mississippi Valley Division

BIOGRAPHY



Major General John W. Peabody

*Commander, Mississippi Valley Division
President, Mississippi River Commission*

Major General John W. Peabody assumed command of the Mississippi Valley Division, Vicksburg, Miss., November 10, 2011. He also serves as President of the Mississippi River Commission. General Peabody came to MVD from Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was the Commander for the Corps Great Lakes and Ohio River Division.

As MVD Commander, Peabody is responsible for a \$7.5 billion civil works program. In addition, he plays a vital role in managing the Corps water resources program in the Mississippi River Valley. The boundaries of the Mississippi Valley Division extend from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, include portions of 12 states, and encompass 370,000 square miles. The programs and activities overseen by the MVD and MRC are conducted by six district offices located in St. Paul, Minn., Rock Island, Ill., St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., Vicksburg, Miss., and New Orleans, La. He also serves as Commander of Task Force Hope. Established in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Task Force Hope is responsible to deliver the nearly \$15 billion construction program that will provide the 100-year level of storm surge risk reduction to the greater New Orleans area in 2011.

A northern Ohio native, Maj. Gen. Peabody entered military service in 1980 upon commissioning as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, and has spent most of his career as a combat engineer.

Staff assignments include Company Executive Officer and Aide-de-Camp in the 193rd Infantry Brigade, Instructor at the US Army School of the Americas; Assistant S3 in the 307th Engineer Battalion (Airborne); the 13th Corps Support Command Engineer, Fort Hood, Texas; the Logistics Support Command Engineer in Somalia; S3 of the 17th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Div.; Pol-Mil Div. Chief of the J5, US Southern Command in Panama; Senior Engineer Trainer at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif., and Programs Div. Chief of the Army's Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison.

Previous commands include the 618th Engineer Company (Light Equipment) (Airborne), 82nd Airborne Division; the 299th Engineer Battalion, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, the Engineer Brigade for the 3rd Infantry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom I, and the Pacific Ocean Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, Purple Heart, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Joint Unit Commendation Award, Army Superior Unit Award, Master Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, and Army Staff Badge.

Maj. Gen. Peabody is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College with a master's degree in Strategic Studies. He also holds a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University and studied international relations and political sociology as an Olmsted Scholar at El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico City.