



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Mississippi Valley Division

BIOGRAPHY



Colonel George T. Shepard, Jr., P.E.

*Deputy Commander, Mississippi Valley Division
Secretary, Mississippi River Commission*

Colonel George T. “Thatch” Shepard, Jr., became Deputy Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg, Miss., on July 28, 2008. He also serves as Secretary for the Mississippi River Commission.

The Mississippi Valley Division is responsible for Corps of Engineers water resources programs in a 370,000-square-mile area in portions of 12 states from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. Its subordinate districts are headquartered in St. Paul, Minn.; Rock Island, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Vicksburg, Miss.; and New Orleans, La. The Presidentially appointed Mississippi River Commission is responsible for the comprehensive Mississippi River and Tributaries flood control and navigation project and engineering work on the Mississippi River and its tributaries from Lake Itasca,

Minn., to the Head of Passes in Louisiana.

Prior to this assignment, he was Deputy Commander for the Corps Savannah District. While there, he was tasked with an eight-month deployment to Iraq, where he served as the Deputy Commander of the Gulf Region Division North District, Tikrit, Iraq. There he supported the Coalition Forces Campaign Strategy with a \$700 million construction program across the 60,000-square-mile area of operation.

Upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Colonel Shepard was commissioned into the Army Corps of Engineers in May 1986.

His assignments include Platoon Leader, E (Mobile Assault Bridge) 1st Engineer Battalion (Combat), 1st Infantry Division (Mech); Platoon Leader, A/1st Engineer Battalion (Combat), 1st Infantry Division (Mech); Aide-de-Camp to the ADC-M, 1st Infantry Division (Mech); Executive Officer, B/1st Engineer Battalion (Combat), 1st Infantry Div. (Mech), all at Fort Riley, Kansas. He served as Assistant S-3, 84th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Heavy); Commander, A/84th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Heavy), both in Hawaii; Deputy Chief, Regulatory Functions Branch, New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Instructor, Environmental Engineering, and Assistant Professor of Environmental Engineering in the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering, West Point; Deputy District Engineer, Wilmington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington, N.C.; Director of Public Works, 80th Area Support Group, Chievres, Belgium, supporting the joint communities of the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), the NATO Support Activity in Brussels, and the Joint Forces Command in Brussum, The Netherlands.

Colonel Shepard holds a master’s degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Florida. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the states of Virginia and North Carolina. His military education includes the Engineer Officer’s Basic Course, the Infantry Officer’s Advance Course, the Command and General Staff College and the Sapper Leader Course. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4 awards), Army Commendation Medal (3 awards), Army Achievement Medal (3 awards), National Defense Service Medal (2 awards), Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (2 awards), Airborne Badge, Air Assault Badge, Combat Action Badge and the Ranger Tab. He was also presented the Bronze Order of the DeFleury Medal.