

Command Strategic Review visit by HQ leadership team reveals MVD ready, responsive and reliable

By MVD Public Affairs

A team of strategic management subject matter experts from Headquarters lead by USACE Deputy Commander, Maj. Gen. Todd Semonite, visited the Mississippi Valley Division July 24th and 25th to review MVD's Strategic Implementation Plan regarding how well it is aligned with, and supporting, the overall USACE Strategic Campaign Plan.



Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody (left) and Maj. Gen. Semonite discuss the USACE Strategic Plan during the Command Strategic Review July 24, 2012. (Photo by Alfred Dulaney)

mitment to MVD's mission, regional-based work planning and a clear dedication to helping MVD's people be their best.

"You are all clearly committed to taking MVD to Great," said Maj. Gen. Semonite. "HQ clearly needs to make some of your regional functional champion concepts more visible within the Corps."

In addition to Maj. Gen. Semonite, the HQ

team included Alex Dornstauder, Karen Durham-Aguilera, Tab Brown, Sue Engelhardt and Wes Miller.

MVD team members who organized and facilitated the successful visit include Joni Nichols, Terry Smith, Toni Lowe, Andrea Perkins, Cecilia Robertson and Ty Bennett. Kudos to everyone in the Business Management Division for another great job in a string of very visible visits by VIPs, including one by the new Chief of Engineers, LTC Thomas Bostick, in June.

The review showed that MVD's actions are aligned with the HQ's Campaign Plan and that the division's focus on providing "Value to the Nation" gives all of its team member's contributions a true sense of meaning. The campaign plan also provides a larger context for how individuals contribute to the overall success of the organization.

Highlights from the inspection include praise for MVD's readiness and response to the record 2011 flood, the outcome-focused metrics MVD is using, the comprehensive focus on preparing the team with regard to a vision for the river, a com-

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President Obama appoints Maj. Gen. Peabody President of the MRC



Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody
Commander
Mississippi Valley Division
President
Mississippi River Commission

President Barack Obama appointed Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody as President of the Mississippi River Commission on August 6, 2012. MRC appointments are nominated by the President of the United States and subject to confirmation by the U.S. Senate. The Senate confirmed MG Peabody's nomination August 2, 2012.

Peabody assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Mississippi Valley Division in November 2011, and led his first Mississippi River Commission inspection trip along the lower Mississippi River in March 2012.

As the commander and division engineer for the Mississippi Valley

Division, Maj. Gen. Peabody directs all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers water resources development in the Mississippi River basin, an area of more than 370,000 square miles, including all or parts of 12 states.

He 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, with operational deployments to Somalia, Kuwait and Iraq. He also served as the division engineer for the Corps' Great Lakes and Ohio River Division before taking command of the Mississippi Valley Division.

General 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 received an M.P.A from Harvard University and studied as an Olmsted Scholar at El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico City.

His 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, among others.

The Mississippi River Commission was created by an Act

of Congress on June 28, 1879, to plan and provide for the general improvement of the entire length of the Mississippi River. This includes improving navigation, preventing destructive floods and facilitating commerce. The presidential appointees consist of three officers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and three civilians, two of whom must be civil engineers.

The commission itself is an advisory body. Its general duties include recommending policy and work programs, studying and reporting on modifications or changes to the Mississippi River and Tributaries project, commenting on matters authorized by law, making inspection trips, and holding public hearings that facilitate exchanges of viewpoints and ideas between the public and the MRC. Since 1879 the commission has been "listening, inspecting and partnering" with water resource interests in a watershed that is influenced by the drainage of more than 41 percent of the United States and two provinces of Canada.

For more information on the MRC, you may visit www.mvd.usace.army.mil/mrc.



Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody (center) recently met with Garret Graves (pictured fourth from left), chair of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (CPRA) and executive assistant to the Governor for Coastal Activities, to discuss issues related to the Corps' projects of importance to the State of Louisiana. Pictured also are Jerome Zeringue, Kyle Graham, Kirk Rhinehart, David Peterson, Chip Kline, all with CPRA, and MVD Executive Assistant/MRC Exec. Director Stephen Gambrell.



Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody recently presented (from left to right) Marilyn Holt, Cathy Head and Pat Caldwell with awards for their work on the history book, "Divine Providence." "Divine Providence" was written by Mississippi River Commission Historian Charles Camillo about the Great Flood of 2011. Several readers have described the narrative as compelling, and it is now available online at <http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/mrc/history/docs/DivineProvidence2011MR-Flood.pdf>.



COL John C. Dvoracek to assume duties of Deputy Commander, MVD

By MVD Public Affairs

Colonel John C. Dvoracek (pronounced “DA-RA-CHICK”) assumed the duties of Deputy Commander, Mississippi Valley Division, Vicksburg, Miss., in early August 2012. He will also serve as Secretary of the Mississippi River Commission. Col. Dvoracek previously served as the Deputy Division Commander – Forward for the Transatlantic Division at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Colonel Dvoracek graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in Agricultural Engineering in 1986. His military schools include the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, and the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses.

Colonel Dvoracek has held a variety of assignments in the United States, Europe, and Southwest Asia including Deputy Garrison Commander for Transformation, US Army Garrison Fort Riley, Deputy District Commander at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Fort Worth District, and Command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Engineer Brigade, in Germany and the 73d Engineer Company (Assault Float Bridge) at Fort Lewis, Washington. He has also served as the Chief of Plans and Operations and Deputy C7 Engineer, Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; Division

Chief for Contingency Operations and Exercises in the G-3, First U.S. Army at Fort Gillem, Georgia; Brigade Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer in the 3d Training Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Assistant Professor of Military Science, Army ROTC Battalion, at Texas A&M University; Training Officer for 7th Engineer Brigade; Aide-de-Camp for the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Engineer Center and Fort Leonard Wood; and Company Executive Officer, 35th Engineer Battalion.

His military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, the Meritorious Unit Citation and the Superior Unit Award. He has also been awarded the Southwest Asia Service Medal and the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal from both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Colonel Dvoracek is married and has two children.



COL John C. Dvoracek



Communication, cooperation and coordination key to keeping Mississippi River open for commercial navigation

By Bob Anderson

MVD Public Affairs

Working around the clock, five dredges directed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are battling extreme low-water conditions along the Mississippi River to keep commercial navigation moving on America's super highway.

With dredges moving rapidly from one trouble spot to another to keep up with dynamic low water operational demands, the Corps is also working very closely with the navigation industry and the U.S. Coast Guard to communicate concerns, groundings and changing conditions to avoid accidents and river closures.

Unless additional rainfall occurs, the latest long-range forecast calls for river conditions to con-

tinue to fall through the end of August with new low-water records possible at several key navigation points along the lower Mississippi between Cairo, Ill., and Baton Rouge. Several joint navigation interest teams, including the Lower Mississippi River Committee and the River Industry Executive Task Force, are meeting daily to address the low-water issues with closer coordination and continuous communication.

Of particular concern are the harbors along the lower river that require additional dredging as the water levels possibly fall to historic lows. The harbors serve as on-ramps for the transportation of 500 million tons of commodities that are transported annually along the 12,000-mile-long inland waterways system. The Corps operates 19 shallow-draft harbors on the

lower Mississippi River and several may close temporarily until dredging can be executed. The plan is to keep the majority of the harbors open to provide a reliable conduit for perishable goods and other critical commodities.

Along the upper Mississippi River, 27 locks and dams maintain a minimum navigation channel depth of nine feet. As river levels continue to fall however, dredging will keep trouble spots open in the river between the locks. Dredging will continue along the middle Mississippi River although existing river training structures such as dikes and chevrons have provided improved navigation conditions and reduced dredging requirements for many areas.

Corps of Engineers to proceed with full restoration of BP-NM Floodway by end of 2012

By James Pogue

Memphis District

The Mississippi River Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are moving forward with full restoration of the Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway mainline levee to its authorized pre-2011 flood level by the end of this year ... December 2012.

This feature of the overall Mississippi River and Tributaries system was operated as designed during the record flood of 2011 by

breeching the levee with explosives in three locations to relieve pressure on the larger system. The repair work will include restoration of protection to a pre-flood level equivalent to 62.5 feet on the Cairo (Illinois) river gage with a full width levee profile.

Work to fully restore the floodway levee to its pre-operation level assumes construction crews will make scheduled progress on regional work in Fulton County, Ky., and in the Cairo, Ill., area. Good construction weather and favorable

river stages will also be a factor.

"With public safety our number one priority, we are working as hard as possible to complete the work this year," said the Corps' Memphis District Commander Col. Vernie Reichling.



Mississippi River Commission schedules low-water inspection trip

By Bob Anderson
MVD Public Affairs

The Mississippi River Commission will conduct its annual low-water inspection trip in the Missouri Basin starting in North Dakota traveling the basin to the confluence with the Mississippi then on the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers August 12-24, 2012.

Five public meetings have been scheduled aboard the Motor Vessel MISSISSIPPI in selected towns along the river so commission members have the opportunity to meet with local residents and hear their concerns, ideas and issues. The meeting places, dates and times are as follows:

- August 17, 9:00 a.m. Alton, Ill., at Mel Price Lock & Dam
- August 20, 9:00 a.m. Caruthersville, Mo., at City Front
- August 21, 9:00 a.m. Memphis, Tenn., at Mud Island River Park
- August 22, 9:00 a.m. Greenville, Miss., at Greenville Bridge Boat Ramp
- August 24, 9:00 a.m. Houma, La., at Enterprise Marine Services

All meetings are open to the public. Local interests are invited to present their views and suggestions on matters affecting the water resources infrastructure needs in the valley, including flood control and the Mississippi River and Tributaries project, environmental issues, recreation and navigation.



The vessel *MISSISSIPPI* during the 2011 low-water inspection trip on the Mississippi River.

The agenda for each public meeting will be as follows:

1. Summary report by president of the commission on national and regional issues affecting the programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.
2. District commander's overview for the commission on current project issues in the respective district area.
3. Presentations to the commission by local organizations and members of the public giving views or comments on any issue affecting the programs or projects of the commission and the Corps of Engineers.

The MRC, established in 1879, is composed of seven members, each nominated by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate. Three of the organization's members are officers of the Corps of Engineers; one member is from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and three members are civilians, two of whom are civil

engineers.

General duties of the commission include recommendation of policy and work programs, the study of and reporting upon the necessity for modifications or additions to the flood control and navigation project, recommendation upon any matters authorized by law, and making semi-annual inspection trips. The duties of the commission include the entire length of the Mississippi River

from its headwaters at Lake Itasca, Minn., to Head of Passes, La., where the Mississippi River empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

The purpose of the public meetings is to maintain a dialogue, an exchange of viewpoints and ideas flowing between the public and the Corps. Presentations by the public are made orally, but a copy of the remarks should be presented to the commission for the official record.

The public hearing process is unique to the Mississippi River Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The benefits of hearing the issues and concerns first hand through the public hearing process are invaluable to the commission and the Corps. Also, the interaction with congressional, federal and state interests, local boards and non-government organizations and the public is crucial to the decision-making process of the commission.



Summit to focus on building a Unified Working Vision for the Mississippi River Watershed

By Jay Harrod

The Nature Conservancy

As part of an effort to unite leaders and decision makers from industry, state and federal agencies, academia and non-profit organizations in shaping the vision for the management of the Mississippi River watershed, America's Great Watershed Initiative, or AGWI, is hosting a conference Sept. 26-27 at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark. AGWI is a collaboration that seeks solutions for meeting the many demands placed on the Mississippi River watershed, which includes all or parts of 31 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces.

The event is designed to be an interactive forum for leaders from throughout the watershed, including the six major sub-basins and more than 250 tributaries that feed the Mississippi River. Speakers include: U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack; Major General John W. Peabody, president of the Mississippi River Commission; Ingram Barge Company CEO Craig Philip; Steve Stockton of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Glenn Prickett, chief external affairs officer for The Nature Conservancy; and representatives from DuPont, IBM and others. Individuals interested in attending the conference can register online at agwi.org.

"The Mississippi watershed is critically important to this nation and other nations, and warrants a unified vision that will benefit America well into the future," said

Maj. Gen. Peabody. "This basin produces agricultural products worth \$54 billion annually and accounts for 92 percent of the nation's agriculture exports.

"About 500 million tons of goods are transported on this system each year," Peabody added. "Millions of Americans get their water from these rivers. And people spend millions of dollars each year experiencing these rivers while fishing, hunting, boating and enjoying their beauty."

Michael Reuter, director of The Nature Conservancy's Great Rivers Partnership, said, "The people who attend this conference represent a wide array of interests. That's a good thing. The Mississippi and its tributaries provide a lot of different benefits to a lot of different people. The only way we're going to create a collaborative vision for the management of this system – one that meets all the demands placed on it – is by bringing stakeholders together. And that's why this conference is important."

Dan Mecklenborg, senior vice president and chief legal officer at Ingram Barge Company, said, "One of the goals of AGWI is to create a unified voice for the Mississippi River watershed. Such a voice could be powerful and address issues that cross city, state and even national boundaries – issues like energy, transportation, water quality, flood control, infrastructure, recreation and floodplain management. And such a voice could help

build recognition among regional and national leaders about the importance of this river system and the need for its integrated management."

Individuals on the AGWI Steering Committee represent the Mississippi River Commission, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, America's Wetland, the City of Dubuque, Iowa, The Nature Conservancy, America's Wetland Foundation, Caterpillar, Inc., Ingram Barge Company, and the Iowa Soybean Association.



District team member receives Planner of the Year award

By *Kavanaugh Breazeale*
Vicksburg District

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Vicksburg District team member Christopher Koeppel recently received the Planner of the Year Award. The Director of Civil Works established a USACE "Planning Excellence Award" to provide honorary recognition to an outstanding USACE district employee in a professional planning position.

This award is designed to recognize an individual's contributions to advance state-of-the-art practice of civil works water resources planning. The award recognizes innovation, analytical sophistication and creativity in the development of a planning product that achieves the principles of the Civil Works Strategic Plan. The award is a plaque signed by the Director of Civil Works that recognizes the "Planner of the Year."

Mr. Koeppel was nominated for his work at the Multi-Agency

Interpretive Center in Rolling Fork. His selection for the award was based upon his collaboration and consultations with the community, stakeholders, federal and state agencies, and federally recognized tribes to complete a signed Memorandum of Agreement. The MOA provided a timely schedule to meet established project milestones with Koeppel's leadership in the archaeological investigation.

He was nominated by the chief of the Regional Planning and Environment Division South of the New Orleans District. Nominations from USACE divisions were reviewed by a committee consisting of up to five members of senior planning supervisors or senior policy advisors within the HQUSACE Directorate of Civil Works.

At the district Mr. Koeppel serves as chief of the Upper Delta Environmental Planning Section of



Christopher Koeppel

the Regional Planning and Environment Division and supervises a multi-disciplinary team of environmental specialists to provide environmental analysis and clearance for civil works projects.

A native of Memphis, Tenn., he is married to the former Sarah Younker of Evansville, Ind., and they are the parents of two children.



USACE, MVD push to improve Sustainability/Energy scorecards

By MVD Public Affairs

In response to Executive Order 13514: Federal Leadership in Environment, Energy and Economic Performance, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the Mississippi Valley Division, established its Sustainability Program. The Corps has been working on sustainability during the past two years.

The executive order challenged USACE to use less energy, water and petroleum and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from its missions, equipment and facilities and to help its customers do the same.

As part of the executive order, federal agencies are required to report their progress yearly through the sustainability and energy scorecards. The most recent one, released last month, reported on performance through fiscal year 2011. That scorecard shows USACE as “red” on all seven federal sustainability metrics.

However, USACE is making strides, especially in establishing a system-based institutional foundation; integrating metrics into the Civil Works Directorate Management Review; initiating a Sustainability Awards program; standing up nine new Regional Energy, Sustainable Design and Life Cycle Cost Analysis Centers of Expertise; and educating the workforce on the importance of being more sustainable.

Sustainability has been part

of the culture of the Corps since March 2002, when it adopted its Environmental Operating Principles. The goal now is to take a wide range of independent sustainability-related actions and bring them together in a focused, comprehensive way.

The Way Ahead

- During fiscal years 2012 and 2013, more than \$20 million is being invested in sustainability and energy efficiency projects throughout USACE.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2012 Sustainability Plan, submitted less than two weeks ago, targets expanded use of alternative financing tools such as energy savings performance contracts, right-sizing and right-positioning the vehicle fleet, starting the agency on sustainable acquisition, and implementing a national policy on sea-level change for coastal projects.
- The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) has committed to achieve \$2.5 million in performance-based alternative financing contracts for energy and water efficiency in USACE facilities before the end of December 2013.
- USACE will complete energy and water evaluations at its largest energy consuming facilities.
- The primary task is to create a leadership environment where each person in USACE recognizes and embraces his or her role in sustainability, and then

works with others to create the teams to build the solutions required to achieve the agency’s sustainability goals.

For more information on USACE sustainability efforts, visit: www.usace.army.mil/missions/sustainability.



LT Governor and Senators visit Lower Mississippi River Museum and Riverfront Interpretive Site

By Kavanaugh Breazeale
Vicksburg District

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District's Lower Mississippi River Museum and Riverfront Interpretive Site was recently visited by Mississippi Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves, Senator Albert Butler, Senator Briggs Hopson, Senator Buck Clarke and Senator Brice Wiggins.

The museum is a two-story, 20,000-square foot building attached to the decommissioned Motor Vessel *MISSISSIPPI*. It is located in downtown Vicksburg at 910 Washington Street and will provide visitors with a historic glimpse at life along the river.

The museum will also feature tours onboard the Motor Vessel *MISSISSIPPI IV*. This towboat was in use from the 1960s until 1993 and is now permanently displayed at the downtown location. Visitors will get a glimpse of history through a variety of historical items, interactive displays and a boat simulator in the pilothouse.

The Engineering Research Development Center is constructing a Mississippi River model which will interpret the stretch of the Mississippi River from Greenville to Vicksburg. The model will be located on the west side of the grounds of the museum building.

The museum will educate and inform visitors about the lower



Miss. Lt. Governor Tate Reeves and other Miss. senators recently visited the Lower Mississippi River Museum and River Front Interpretive Site in Vicksburg, Miss. Pictured from left to right are Major John Tucker, Mike Renacker (MVK), Sen. Buck Clarke, Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves, Sen. Albert Butler, Sen. Brice Wiggins and Sen. Briggs Hopson. (Photo by Kavanaugh Breazeale)

Mississippi River and its relationship to Vicksburg and the lower Mississippi Delta region. The museum opening date is scheduled for August 24, 2012.



Welcome Aboard!



Tonya Acuff
MVD Regulatory Administrative
Appeals Review Officer

As the Regulatory Administrative Appeals Review officer for MVD, I am responsible for reviewing appeals regarding approved jurisdictional determinations, denied permits or declined permits.

Prior to my current position, I was a senior project manager in the Evaluation Section at the Vicksburg District. I was responsible for evaluating the more complex or controversial permit applications. I was also the Interagency Review Team chair for mitigation banks located in both Louisiana and Arkansas.

I hold a bachelor's degree from the University of Louisiana at Monroe, and a master's degree in biology

from Mississippi College. I am currently a member of the Class of 2011 Vicksburg Leadership Development Program.

I was deployed to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism in both 2005 and 2007. I was stationed at Gulf Region South for both tours, which totaled 22 months. During that time, I received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service (2005) and the Superior Civilian Service Award (2008) for my efforts.

I am a native of Vicksburg, Miss., and I have worked 10 years for the federal government. Prior to starting work at the Vicksburg District, I worked 10 years at ERDC as a contract student in the Environmental Laboratory. My area of research was the microbial biodegradation of explosives in contaminated soils.

My hobbies include reading, working in the yard and fishing.

MVD hosts New Employee Orientation

By MVD Public Affairs



Several MVD employees attended a new employee orientation July 16, 2012, which educated them on the roles and functionality of the areas of Human Resources, EEO, Regional Business, Programs, Readiness and Contingency Operations, Security, Information Technology, Logistics, Safety and Office of Counsel, etc. Pictured is Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody (standing) welcoming the group to the division.



Around the Division



Harold Riley, Jr. (left), MVD Regional Logistics Manager, presented Warehouse Section Supply Technicians/General Supply Specialists **Ms. Esther Williams, Ms. Josephine Foster, Ms. Ora Flagg and Ms. Barbara Kline** with Certificates of Appreciation for exemplary service to the Vicksburg District for their efforts to conduct site visits at locations in Shreveport, La., Monroe, La., Mississippi lakes and Hot Springs, Ark., ensuring over 25 hand receipt holders were briefed on the importance of capturing all government property as prescribed by AR735-5. Their aggressive approach in ensuring each hand receipt holder at each site understood the importance of bar tagging, cataloging, safe keeping and disposal of government property was vital to MVD, in ensuring fraud, waste and abuse is prevented. These actions reflect great credit to themselves, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the United States Army. Also present was the Vicksburg Acting District Logistics Manager Mr. Ralph Young.

Open Channels

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mississippi Valley Division



Division Engineer

Maj. Gen. John W.
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Dates to Remember

Holidays in August

26—Women's Equality Day - Women's Equality Day is observed to remember the day women gained the right to equality. Women were given the right to vote on August 26, 1920, when the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was certified.





MVD and Military Retirements



Maj. Gen. Michael J. Walsh (left) presented Col. **George T. "Thatch" Shepard** with *The Legion of Merit* during Col. Shepard's retirement ceremony aboard the vessel MISSISSIPPI July 2, 2012. Col. Shepard was MVD's deputy commander for four years. Essays!



Maj. Gen. John W. Peabody presented Charles Barton with a *Certificate of Appreciation* during Barton's retirement ceremony, held July 26, 2012. Barton worked as MRC/MVD Chief Realty Officer for more than 12 years. He also served as chief of the District Support Team for the St. Louis, Rock Island and St. Paul Districts.



Col. Charles Carson (left), MVD Emergency Management Specialist, congratulates **Lt. Col. Jerone Bostick**, MVD Military Planner, on his retirement from the U.S. Army, during a retirement ceremony held at the McKenna Museum of Art in New Orleans, La., June 30, 2012. Bostick served 35 years active and reserve time. Hooah!



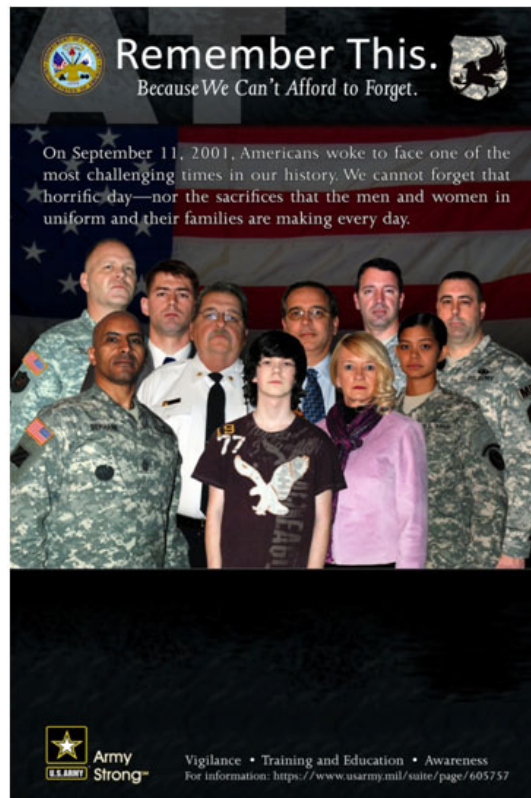
MVD prepares for Antiterrorism during Army's Antiterrorism Awareness Month in August

By Patrick Flowers

MVD Provost Marshal's Office

The Senior Leadership of the Army has proclaimed August 2012 as the Army's Antiterrorism Awareness month. The purpose is twofold: First, the Army Antiterrorism Awareness initiative is to increase awareness of the potential threats to our personnel and facilities from Al-Qaida, its affiliates and allies, and homegrown violent extremists. Second, AT-Awareness serves as the basis of understanding terrorist tactics and operations and the individual protective measures to reduce personal vulnerability to terrorism.

Every member of the Mississippi Valley Division plays an important role in preventing terrorist acts. By embedding anti-terrorism principles and concepts throughout our plans and programs, we protect



MVD's critical resources from acts of terrorism. By understanding the indicators of potential terrorist activities and reporting suspicious behavior to local law enforcement, our community members serve as

“sensors” and enhance and extend MVD's protection posture. Major General John Peabody encourages all MVD civilians and contractors to increase awareness of the potential threats to our personnel and facilities and to report any suspicious activity to the Security Office, Guard's Desk 601-634-7943.

During the month of August, Maj. Gen. Peabody encourages all MVD employees, to include contractors based on the terms specified within the contract, to complete the Level I Antiterrorism Awareness Training NLT August 30, 2012.



IWATCH is a nation-wide modern version of neighborhood watch designed to encourage individuals to help protect their areas by identifying and reporting suspicious behavior that is known or may be

known to have some suspected association with terrorist activities.

The program is being implemented throughout the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers facilities and activities in order to increase terrorism awareness and vigilance. The passive element of IWATCH is individual situational awareness of their surroundings. The active element of IWATCH involves individuals taking action to report suspicious behavior or activities for further investigation. The overall intent is to instill and sustain USACE-wide heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent and protect the USACE community and critical resources/assets from acts of terrorism.