

Dear Ms. Obermann:

Thank you for your presentation before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting held in Hannibal, Missouri, on August 14, 2003. In your statement you requested information on a number of materials for use in your Worlds of Wonder Hannibal Children's Museum. Any videos that we send to you will be in VHS format, if available.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers motion picture film "The Choice Is Ours" is no longer available. The other two films that you requested ("The Mississippi River Challenge" and "The Great Flood of 73") will be sent to you under separate cover.

The book "Flood Control in the Lower Mississippi River Valley" can be obtained by requesting it in your local library through an interlibrary loan from the St. Louis District Library.

The Rock Island District does have a VHS formatted video about a Flood of 1993, which will be reproduced and sent to you under separate cover.

Regarding your request for flood control and navigation maps, unfortunately, we do not provide flood control maps. However, we do provide navigation charts for the Upper Mississippi River. These charts cover the upper river from Hennepin County, Minnesota, to Alexander County, Illinois. These maps are available on the internet at the following web site: <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/NavCharts/UMRNavCharts.asp>. In order to purchase hard copies, you need to call the Lock and

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Dam 15 Visitor Center at 309-794-5338. The cost of these maps is \$30, plus \$6.50 for shipping and handling.

Regarding your inquiry on Great River Road pamphlets, both the States of Iowa and Illinois produce a Great River Road brochure. The Rock Island District will provide you a copy of each when they send the video on the Flood of 1993.

You also asked if we work with non-profit museums to make river exhibits. We do not make exhibits, but we will assist you in ensuring the technical accuracy of the materials you are creating, provided that there is only a minimal amount of time involved and the consultation can be done via e-mail and telephone. This work could be completed through the Rock Island District's Community Relations Program. For more information contact Ms. Justine Barati at 309-794-5204 or via e-mail at Justine.A.Barati@usace.army.mil.

Regarding your desire to have a tug or boat dock in the Hannibal area for tours, please be aware that arranging a tour requires considerable coordination. When we have a boat in the area, we attempt to make arrangements for tours of the vessel. However, time and cost prohibit us from providing frequent tours. To coordinate a tour, please contact Ms. Justine Barati.

In order to provide students with a hands-on experience with a boat that would be available year round, the best solution would be to purchase a vessel specifically for use by the museum. Boats and tugs can be purchased through the government's surplus office, called Defense Reutilization Marketing Office (DRMO). For more information on how to purchase a vessel formerly used by the government, you can call local DRMO located on Rock Island Arsenal at 309-782-1618.

For your information, a good reference source for you to utilize is the National Mississippi River Museum located in Dubuque, Iowa. The idea began with a dream of creating a museum and they turned their dream into a reality. Their web site is: <http://www.mississippirivermuseum.com/main.htm>. The phone number is 800-226-3369, or you can contact them via e-mail at rivermuse@mwci.net.

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The Commission appreciates receiving your comments and will be pleased to hear from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

Don T. Riley
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
President Designee, Mississippi
River Commission