



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Mississippi Valley Division

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# News Release

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## After the 2001 Upper Mississippi spring flood

VICKSBURG, Miss., June 13, 2001 -- Corps personnel involved in the Spring 2001 flood fight are now working to complete closeout actions, finalize contracts and redistribute supplies and equipment as flooding on the upper Mississippi River comes to an end.

Flood protection projects already in place together with Spring 2001 emergency activities undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, prevented an estimated \$1.6 billion in flood damages during the recent high water event on the upper Mississippi River.

Types of flood protection projects included dams, levees, floodwalls, pump stations and channel improvements. Emergency activities included technical assistance, flood fight materials and construction of emergency levees.

"The Corps' flood protection structures did the job they were designed to do, which is to help protect lives and property," said Brig. Gen. Edwin J. Arnold, Jr., Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' St. Paul and Rock Island districts worked with the states of North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa to minimize the impacts of flooding. Under its Public Law 84-99 (Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies) authority, the Corps provided over \$6 million dollars of emergency funding in the form of technical assistance, emergency levee raises, sandbags (4.9 million), poly sheeting (1,092 rolls) and pumps (170). These measures helped communities in raising existing levees to prevent overtopping when the river crests.

Additional emergency funds will be used for repairs at flood protection projects that have been turned over to local interests for operation and maintenance.

In addition, a total of 354 Corps personnel were supporting the flood fight at the height of the event. "I am very proud of our employees," said Gen. Arnold. "Throughout this flood event, Corps personnel gave emergency assistance top priority, providing immediate response using every resource and expedited procedure available."

In addition, it is estimated that repair costs at Corps-operated structures will cost \$68.8 million. Funds for repairs at the locks, dams and recreation areas will come from the Corps' Operation and Maintenance program, which currently has a critical backlog of \$147.2 million.

River levels on the upper Mississippi River and the Ohio River are currently at or above flood stage, but are expected to begin falling in the next two to three days. The weather outlook for the summer has near normal rainfall for the Upper Mississippi Valley while the Ohio Valley is expected to experience below normal rainfall. Even with the recent rains over the Lower Mississippi Valley, moisture deficits are expected to persist through the summer.

\_ To keep track of daily river stages along the length of the river, check out the websites at:

St. Paul District [www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil)  
Rock Island District [www.mvr.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil)  
St. Louis District [www.mvs.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil)  
Memphis District [www.mvm.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvm.usace.army.mil)  
Vicksburg District [www.mvk.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil)  
New Orleans District [www.mvn.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, includes portions of 12 states and encompasses 370,000 square miles. The district offices that conduct the programs and activities overseen by the Mississippi Valley Division are located in St. Paul, Minn.; Rock Island, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Vicksburg, Miss.; and New Orleans, La.

View pictures of the St. Paul and Rock Island Districts' flood fight efforts at:

[http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/flood\\_control/current\\_act/](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/flood_control/current_act/)

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/InternetNews/TopSto>

<http://www.qctimes.com/flood2001/>

