



News Release

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Mississippi Valley Division/
Mississippi River Commission
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Change of Command Ceremony

VICKSBURG, Miss., September 12, 2002 -- In a formal change of command ceremony September 19, 2002, Brigadier General Edwin J. Arnold, Jr., will transfer command of the Mississippi Valley Division (MVD), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to Brigadier General Don T. Riley. The ceremony will be officiated by the Corps' Chief of Engineers, Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers, and will take place at 10:00 a.m. at the George A. Morris Army Reserve Center, 1265 Porters Chapel Road. The public is invited.

Brig. Gen. Arnold, MVD Commander and President of the Mississippi River Commission since September 2000, will retire. He and his wife, Margaret, will reside in North Carolina.

As part of the ceremony, a Salute Battery will be conducted. The salute will include 11 rounds of relatively loud cannon fire (blanks).

Brig. Gen. Riley comes to the Mississippi Valley Division from Heidelberg, Germany, where he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Engineer Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe.

As MVD Commander, General Riley will be responsible for Corps water resource programs in a 370,000-square-mile area that includes portions of 12 states; its boundary extends from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. District offices are headquartered in St. Paul, Rock Island, St. Louis, Memphis, Vicksburg, and New Orleans.

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In addition, General Riley will be president-designee of the Mississippi River Commission, the presidentially appointed agency that oversees the comprehensive Mississippi River and Tributaries flood control and navigation project, as well as the entire Mississippi River and its tributaries.

Gen. Riley is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers in 1973. He earned a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of California.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, School of Advanced Military Studies, and the United States Army War College.

Riley's troop assignments include duty as platoon leader, assistant, S-3, company executive officer, and company commander, 14th Engineer Battalion, Fort Ord, Calif.; Assistant Division Engineer and Chief, Plans and Exercises, G3, 3rd Armored Division; S-3, 23rd Engineer Battalion; Deputy G3, 5th Infantry Division; Commander, 7th Engineer Battalion, Fort Polk, La.; Commander, 17th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas; Chief, Plans and Exercises, G3, I Corps; Commander, 555th Engineer Group, Fort Lewis, Wa.; Director, Maneuver Support Battle Lab, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; and Executive Officer to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Va.

In addition, Gen. Riley has served as Contract Construction Engineer for the Corps' Far East District in Korea. He also held the following positions at the United States Engineer Center, Fort Belvoir, Va.: Instructor; Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General; Chief, Captain's Training Team, Directorate of Training and Doctrine; Instructor/Team Leader, Engineer Officer Advanced Course; and Chief, NCO Training Division, Department of Military Engineering.