



**U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

Mississippi Valley  
Division  
Mississippi River  
Commission

# BIOGRAPHY

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## John S. Rickey

John S. Rickey is the Public Affairs Officer for the Mississippi Valley Division and Mississippi River Commission (MVD/MRC). His primary role is the command's spokesperson, advisor to the Commanding General and staff, principle speechwriter, and the command's liaison to surrounding communities, civic, state and national governmental organizations and elected officials.

Through his 20 years of Federal service, John S. Rickey has served in a variety of positions and at numerous locations. These include 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment, Bindlach, Germany; U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Des Moines, Iowa; Headquarters, Forces Command, Atlanta, Georgia, and most recently the U.S. Army Armor Center and Fort Knox, Fort Knox, Kentucky, as the Public Affairs Officer for the Armor Center and Fort Knox.

During his tenure at Fort Knox, the installation earned three Army Newspaper of the Year honors in 1991, 1993, and 1998. "Inside the Turret" also earned runner-up honors in 1998's DOD Thomas Jefferson awards. He has mentored one DOD Journalist of the Year, two DOD Sportswriters of the Year, and three DA Journalist of the year.

His critical responsibilities have included crisis public affairs responsibilities for the Army's role in National Command Authority actions such as Hurricane Hugo, San Francisco Earthquake, Just Cause and Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He has also performed special missions of media/family liaison officer for the family of CW2 Michael Barrett, the pilot of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Blackhawk helicopter shot down in the Friendly Fire incident over Iraq in 1994, and media/family liaison to SSG Christopher Stone's family, one of three American POW's held during the 1999 Kosovo intervention, coordinating and executing 2800 media queries in 25 days, including escorting the family to New York City for numerous national daytime morning shows and "Larry King Live."

He has extensive media experience on a national level. Recognized results are "Behind Closed Doors with Joan Lunden," a national primetime special, "The Real Fort Knox," produced for the Discovery Channel, PBS "Frontline" feature on Army Transformation, CNN "Presents" feature on "Urban Warfare," and NBC Dateline, and "The Long Journey Home" piece on George Warstler, a Vietnam deserter

He is graduate of Grandview College in Des Moines, as well as the Army Management Staff College. He is married and has two children.