



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Engineer Research and  
Development Center

# Information Bulletin

Topographic Engineering Center

November 10, 1999

*U.S. Army 1999 Research &  
Development Organization of the Year*

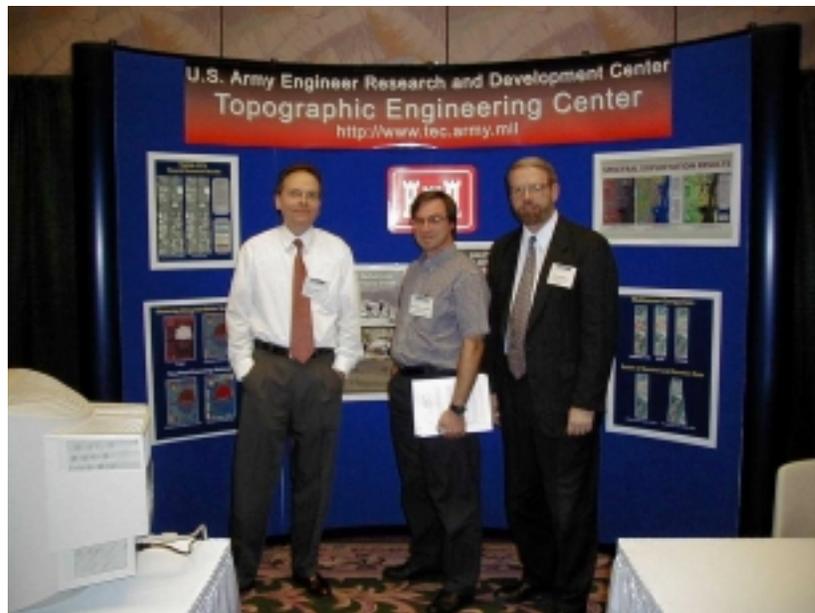
## OFFICIAL

### From the Director

More action is occurring across the Army for implementing GEN Shinseki's vision of a fast, agile medium sized force. An Army Science and Technology Working Group has been established to develop a plan and budget for fielding the new medium force by 2012. In addition to lighter vehicles, robots of various size, new miniaturized sensors, and improved communications and information analysis tools are being envisioned. Terrain knowledge will be very important. Small ground robots and miniature airborne sensors open new paradigms for characterizing the battle space environment. Many of the technologies required for this new Army Force are in TEC's mission area.

As a follow-up to last weeks ISSSR conference, the TEC/ERDC exhibit setup at the conference is shown below. There was a lot of interest shown in the products on display at our exhibit.

Thursday is a national holiday set aside to remember and honor America's veterans. Enjoy the holiday and drive safely.



Ed Bosch (l) and Dr. Roper (r) at the TEC/ERDC booth at the ISSSR conference

### Veterans Day message

On Veterans Day, as our Nation pays tribute to the American men and women who have served in our Nation's Armed Forces, we take this opportunity to salute and so honor you, the soldiers serving in the Army today. Your determination, your readiness, and your unique ability to go where you are needed at the time you are needed are potent symbols of liberty, justice, and hope for freedom loving people the world over.

Since the Berlin Wall fell, you have deployed more than 30 times into harm's way around the world. More than 146,000 of you are now stationed or forward deployed in about 70 countries. Whether you are serving our Nation at home or abroad, on active duty, in the Army Reserve, in the Army National Guard, or as an Army civilian, you constantly amaze us with the strength of your dedication and your morale.

Each day you serve, you voluntarily forego comfort and wealth. Often, you face hardships and sacrifice. Sometimes you confront danger and face death in defending the Nation's security. By your actions, you live the Army Corps Values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage.

To all of you "on point for the Nation," for your contributions and your countless sacrifices. It is an honor to serve with you.

On this, the next to last Veterans Day of the twentieth century, we pledge you our tireless efforts to ensure that you remain the world's preeminent warfighting land force, the most esteemed institution in America, and the most respected Army in the world.

Honorable Louis Caldera  
Secretary of the Army

General Eric K. Shinseki  
Army Chief of Staff

### **ERDC Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) Team:**

Each organization of the ERDC has a CPAC generalist assigned as a primary contact for their organization. Each organization also has a back-up generalist, for additional coverage, and a Personnel Assistant. Listed below are the members of the CPAC Team and their assignments (only those applicable to TEC location shown - complete list available in HR). ERDC employees are welcome to talk with generalists or assistants located at their geographic site regardless of organizational assignment. Customer service comments, questions or issues that are not handled by your generalist may be addressed to Susan Koh, either by phone at (603) 646-4500 or by e-mail, or to Russ Thomas at (601) 634-5133 or by e-mail.

ERDC HQ Susan Koh 603-646-4500; Joan Pugh (back-up) 603-646-4484;  
Martha Bowen, Personnel Assistant 601-634-7334

ERDC Offices/DPW Colleen Hughlock 603-646-4132; Susan Koh (back-up) 603-646-4500;  
Laura Larry, Personnel Assistant 601-634-5145

ITL Jim Klein 601-634-5141; Angelo Russo (back-up) 703-428-6255;  
Donna Simmons, Personnel Assistant 601-634-5153

MVK Richard Harris, 601-634-7342

TEC Angelo Russo 703-428-6255; Jim Klein (back-up) 601-634-5141;  
Donna Simmons, Personnel Assistant 601-634-5153

## FEHB Open Season

Open season for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program runs through Monday, December 13. Extensive information is available from the OPM web site at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/index.html>. Here you can download guides and brochures, compare plans, find web links to FEHB providers, and view other useful information concerning the FEHB program.

**'PlanSmartChoice' Can Help You Pick FEHB Plan.** The Office of Personnel Management is promoting an interactive, Internet-based service to help federal and postal employees and retirees narrow down their choices during the health insurance open season that ends December 13. You'll find it at <http://www.opm.gov/hr/insure/html/plansmart.html>. Once registered, it will take you 15 to 30 minutes to click through the various questions. At the end of the process you'll be given a list of plans you should consider based on your answers to those questions.

## Travel Item of Interest

The responsible Travel Specialist signing travel orders in CEFMS 15-19 Nov 99 is Betty O'Donnell. Questions may be directed to Betty @ 603 646-4355, [betty.o'donnell@usace.army.mil](mailto:betty.o'donnell@usace.army.mil).

## Calendar of Events

10 Nov	LTC Ives (TAC-D), NGIC visit to TEC. POC: Frank Capece.
11 Nov	Holiday (Nov 12 is also a training holiday for military personnel)
25 Nov	Holiday (Nov 26 is also a training holiday for military personnel)
16 Dec	TEC Holiday Party – Cruise on <i>Spirit of Washington</i>
17 Dec	Blood Drive, 0800-1400 – Casey Bldg, room 143

## Arrivals/Departures/Vacancies

### Arrivals:

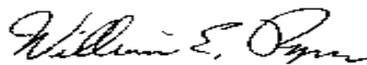
<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Date</u>
Caroline D'Aguiar (Intelligence Specialist)	FDD	11-19-99

### Departures:

Collins, Gale	GID	11-20-99, to CAA - promotion
---------------	-----	------------------------------

### Open Announcements:

None



WILLIAM E. ROPER, Ph.D., PE  
Director

BOBBIE F. KERNS, JR.  
Deputy Director Laboratory Management

# UNOFFICIAL

## **Beautiful Life Christmas Wreaths & Garland**

It's not too early to plan your Christmas decorations. Beautiful 26 inch fresh cut Balsam Wreath (\$18), 24 inch fresh cut Balsam Swag (\$12), 20 foot fresh cut Balsam Garland (\$25), 36" Mailbox Swag (\$18) and a Brass Wreath hanger (\$5) are available. See or call Dick Marth room 862/IC 2528 to place your order by COB 18 Nov 99. Payment is due on 18 Nov 99. Orders will be delivered to TEC during the week of 5 Dec 99. Proceeds benefit Boy Scout Troop 224.

## **Savings Bonds Online**

The Internet is changing the way the federal government communicates with people just as it is changing our buying habits. One of the newest examples: Government employees buy a lot of federal savings bonds. The Bureau of Public Debt has unveiled a web site to make it easier to buy them or just to find out about savings bonds as an investment. Go to the Public Debt site at <http://www.savingsbonds.gov/> for the latest rates, buying bonds, or learning more about the savings bond program. For those who are interested, the site also provides information on other investments such as T-bills.

## **TEC Holiday Party**

Just wanted to let ticket purchasers know that you'll be joining 190 other TEC party goers on our holiday cruise on December 16. The boat is full - all available seats have been sold.