

	<h1>Information Bulletin</h1>	
	Topographic Engineering Center <i>U.S. Army 1999 Research & Development Organization of the Year</i>	January 5, 2000

O F F I C I A L

Change of Director Ceremony Monday

Monday at 1030 in Conference Rooms 1, 2, and 3 there will be a ceremony where Dr. Roper will pass leadership of TEC to our new Director, COL James A. Walter. A bio of COL Walter is attached to this bulletin.

Reminder To Bargaining Unit Employees

"Weingarten Rights"

Title V of the U. S. Code, Section 7114(a) (2)(B), provides that a union with exclusive recognition must be given the opportunity to be represented at any examination (i.e., interview, discussion, or meeting) of a bargaining unit employee by a management official or representative in connection with an investigation if:

- a. The employee reasonably believes that the examination may result in disciplinary action against the employee; and
- b. the employee requests representation.

Capece Receives Award

Dr. Roper today presented to Frank Capece the Commander's Award for Civilian Service to recognize his dedication and service to TEC and the Director during the past 2 1/2 years.



Conference Rooms Reopened

Conference rooms 1, 2, and 3 have reopened for use. Some remaining audiovisual, electrical, and cosmetic work remains to be completed. Additional seating has been ordered and should arrive in the next few months. The configuration of the three rooms has changed. Remember this when reserving rooms.

Change in Carlson Travel Service Support Office

We have been notified by Military Traffic Management Contract (MTMC), that the Carlson Travel service currently being provided by the Vicksburg Carlson Office has been approved to be changed to the Ft. Drum Carlson Office. The Ft. Drum Carlson staff will begin providing your support effective January 3, 2000.

The Ft. Drum staff looks forward to providing you the same quality of service as you are currently experiencing from the Vicksburg staff. You may contact the Ft. Drum Carlson staff at the following number:

Phone 1-800-278-4001 Fax 315-773-0048

The Ft. Drum agents are:

Mary Burkman
Michelle Colwell
Linda Mothersell
Kristen Trujillo - Manager

Airline Revenue Recovery Fee Initiated

Due to the fact that the Airlines have recently dropped the commission given to travel agencies, we will be charged a fee for service for official travel effective 20 December 1999. The Airlines have dropped their commission from 10% to 5%. The drop in commission allows the Contract Travel Offices (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) to change original contract agreements. We will no longer receive a discount on our official airline tickets. We will now be charged a fee per ticket. For DTR4 (Hanover and Alexandria), the revenue recovery fee will be \$4.31 per ticket issued. For DTR2 (Vicksburg) the revenue recovery fee will be \$4.34. This fee also applies to refunded tickets. **The service fee is not refundable.**

Please include the revenue recovery fee in the ticket amount when entering CEFMS travel orders (this fee is included when itinerary/invoice is provided).

The service fee may change depending on commission rates. Changes will be published as received.

Also, because of this, the government is terminating the leisure travel portion of the contract effective 10 January 2000. This means that Carlson Wagonlit Travel will no longer be able to provide leisure travel. The only exceptions currently are emergency leave and leave in conjunction with official travel. (When you exchange an official airline ticket for a leisure ticket) In this case, your revenue recovery fee will be charged for the official ticket and a fee will also be charged for the leisure ticket.

New Per Diem Rates Effective January 1, 2000

Some per diem rates changed effective 1 January. The following web site has complete information on per diem rates (this web site also has government city-pair flight schedules and rates, as well as rental car information and rates): <http://policyworks.gov/org/main/mt/homepage/mtt/perdiem/travel.shtml>

TEC Inclement Weather Policy

Reminder that TEC Reg 690-1-610 remains in effect concerning policies in this area. Basically, in the event of hazardous weather conditions existing prior to duty hours, TEC will follow decisions made by OPM if closing or delay is announced for the entire National Capital Area (NCR), or by Fort Belvoir when closing or delay is announced for specific regions within the NCR. Announcements will broadcast over local radio and television stations. For specific details consult the TEC regulation or your supervisor.

New Editor for TEC Bulletin

Starting with the next issue, Jackie Bryant, PAO, will take over production of the TEC Bulletin. Input to the bulletin must be received by Jackie by COB each Tuesday.

FEEA Scholarship Information Available

The FEEA Scholarship Program is underway and the agency is currently accepting applications for college scholarships for the children of current civilian federal or postal employees. The information is available on the FEEA web site at <http://www.feea.org/>

New Potomac Region ASPRS Director

Congratulations to Mary Pat Santoro on her appointment as Regional Director of the Potomac Region of the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. More information is available at <http://www.asprs-potomac.theus.com/NewsDec99.PDF>.

Travel update

Here is the current schedule for approving travel in CEFMS:

03-07 Jan 2000, Vicki Ray, Vicksburg
10-14 Jan 2000, Terri Norman, Champaign
17-21 Jan 2000, Betty O'Donnell, Hanover
24-28 Jan 2000, Vicki Ray, Vicksburg

Calendar of Events

6 Jan	TEC Town Hall, 0930-1030, Conf Rm 1, 2, 3
10 Jan	Change of Director ceremony, 1030, Conf Rm 1, 2, 3
18 Jan	Retirement luncheon for COL Thomas
1 Feb	Retirement luncheon for Dr. Roper

Arrivals/Departures/Vacancies

Arrivals:

Name

Organization

Date

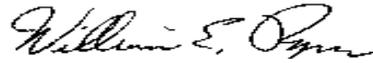
Departures:

Elizabeth Taylor

ITL

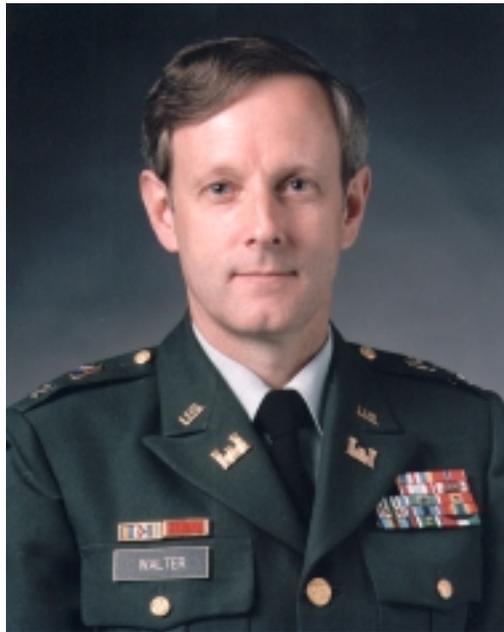
7 Jan 00 (to private industry)

Open Announcements:



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

BOBBIE F. KERNS, JR.
Deputy Director Laboratory Management



COL James A. Walter
Director, Topographic Engineering Center
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Engineer Research and Development Center

COL Jim Walter is the Director of the Topographic Engineering Center, a key research, development, and operational component of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center. Prior to this assignment, he was Executive Director of Research & Development at Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Prior to that assignment, he was Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratories (CERL) in Champaign, IL. He is currently located in Alexandria, VA.

Education

COL Walter graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and holds a Masters of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. COL Walter is a graduate of the Army War College. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of Washington.

Experience

COL Walter has an extensive background in the Corps of Engineers and in the facilities engineering arena. He served as the Facilities Engineer in Sinope, Turkey, and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; and as the Executive Director of the Engineering Directorate, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management on the Army Staff. His service in the Corps of Engineers includes Design Engineer, Buffalo District; Deputy Director of the Humphries Engineer Center Support Activity; and District Engineer, Walla Walla District. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he was responsible for acquiring construction and facilities support from the Saudi Arabian government for U.S. forces in the Gulf. Walter has also been assigned to the National Imagery and Mapping Agency as the program manager for the U.S. Central Command.

Professional Achievements

COL Walter's military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and five awards of the Meritorious Service Medal. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers.

Personal

Walter resides in Woodbridge, VA, with his wife, the former Arlene F. Keryk of Lockport, NY. His interests include ornithology, astronomy, classical music, engineering history, and bicycling.