



Information Bulletin

**US Army Corps
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Memorial Day “National Moment of Remembrance”

Memorial Day, May 29, America honors members of our Armed Forces who have given their lives in defense of freedom. The importance of this day is being reemphasized with a new tradition this year, the Memorial Day “National Moment of Remembrance.” The following May 2 memorandum from the President of the United States, William J. Clinton, outlines planning guidelines for this initiative:

“As Memorial Day approaches, it is time to pause and consider the true meaning of this holiday. Memorial Day represents one day of national awareness and reverence, honoring those Americans who died while defending our Nation and its values. While we should honor these heroes every day for the profound contribution they have made to securing our Nation’s freedom, we should honor them especially on Memorial Day.

In this time of unprecedented success and prosperity throughout our land, I ask that all Americans come together to recognize how fortunate we are to live in freedom and to observe a universal “National Moment of Remembrance” on each Memorial Day. This memorial observance represents a simple and unifying way to commemorate our history and honor the struggle to protect our freedoms.

Accordingly, I hereby direct all Executive departments and agencies, in consultation with the White House program for the National Moment of Remembrance (Program), to promote a National Moment of Remembrance to occur at 3 p.m. (Local time) on each Memorial Day. Recognizing that Memorial Day is a federal holiday, all Executive departments and agencies, in coordination with the program and to the extent possible and permitted by law, shall promote and provide resources to support a National Moment of Remembrance, including:

- Encouraging individual department and agency personnel, and Americans everywhere, to pause for 1-minute at 3 p.m. (local time) on Memorial Day, to remember and reflect on the sacrifices made by so many to provide freedom for all.
- Recognizing, in conjunction with Memorial Day, department and agency personnel whose family members have made the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation.
- Providing such information and assistance as may be necessary for the program to carry out its functions.

I have asked the Director of the White House Millennium Council to issue additional guidance, pursuant to this memorandum, to the heads of Executive departments and agencies regarding specific activities and events to commemorate the National Moment of Remembrance.”

William J. Clinton

Army Ideas of Excellence Program Now on ERDC Intranet

The new automated Army Ideas of Excellence Program (also known as the suggestion program) is now on the ERDC Intranet at <http://erd30.erd.usace.army.mil:3027/html/idex.html>.

This Internet-based process was developed to support the ERDC program centrally and efficiently by replacing the paper-laden submission through approval procedures with online tools. As a result, proposals should move through the review process much more quickly.

Special features in the process include the capability for submitters to monitor the stage of the review online. The program relies on system e-mail notices to both evaluator and reviews alerting them of a proposal awaiting their action. A suspending process also has been built into the system.
(Elvin McFerrin, (601) 634-2551)

2000 Savings Bond Campaign

The 2000 Savings Bond Campaign will run from June 1-30. Series EE and I bonds are available to purchase through payroll deduction for federal employees only.

I bonds are sold at face value in \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000 denominations. Earnings are added to the bond each month and interest is compounded semiannually.

The purchase price of an EE bond is 50 percent of its face amount: for example, \$100 bonds cost \$50. Bonds are available through the payroll savings plan in \$100, \$200, \$500, and \$1,000 denominations. Interest is added to the value of EE bonds every month. The announced interest rate is compounded semiannually, the full value of your bond (principal and interest) is always reinvested at the current market-based rate.

TEC members can receive an authorization card and a savings bond brochure from Shirley Armentrout, Room 106A, ICOM 2410, (703) 428-8652.

For more information regarding savings bonds, go to <http://www.savingsbonds.gov>.

Travel Update

Here is the current schedule for approving travel in CEFMS:

May 29-June 2	Vicki Ray	(601) 634-2378
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The Travel Support Team has created an ERDC travel web page on the inside ERDC site, which is now available for your use. We hope you will find this page useful.

If you feel there is additional information that would be beneficial, please do not hesitate to let us know. E-mail information or comments to Betty O'Donnell: <http://erdcinfo.erd.usace.army.mil/lmo/travel/inex.htm>.

Thank you for taking this opportunity to review what the ERDC travel web page has to offer.

As always, if you have a question please contact your local Travel Specialist. In the event she is not available you may contact any ERDC Travel Specialist. (Terri Norman, Team Leader, Travel Section (217) 373-6708)

Corps to be honored at Twilight Tattoo on May 31

All members of the Corps family (contractors too) are invited to come and see the Twilight Tattoo on May 31 to honor the Corps' proud historical tradition dating back 225 years. The Twilight Tattoo, conducted by the Military District of Washington, is an impressive military pageant featuring the Old Guard and Army Band. Though held every Wednesday throughout the summer, the May 31 Tattoo will specifically honor the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Tattoo will be held at the Ellipse (between the White House and the Washington Monument) from 7-8 p.m. Bring a blanket to spread out on the grass and enjoy the show! The

Tattoos enjoy a large public attendance. The event is free. While you're there, be sure to see the Corps' historical display.

Why do they call it a Tattoo? Twilight Tattoo is a military tradition dating back to the 1600s and Europe's Thirty-Year War. During the evenings, bugles were sounded, signaling soldiers to close the taverns and return to their quarters. Someone would then "tap to" – or hammer – stoppers back into the kegs. Over time, the phrase "tap to" evolved into the word "tattoo." Today, "tattoo" has evolved into an Army tradition signifying day's end.

(Becki Dobyns, HQ02, (202) 761-1809)

National Parks Pass Program Implemented

The National Park Service has recently implemented a new National Parks Pass Program. The program was authorized by Public Law 105-391 (112 Stat 3497), and the pass first became available April 18, 2000. The pass costs \$50 and is valid for 1-year. It provides the same privileges as the Golden Eagle Passport, except it only applies to National Parks. The Golden Eagle Passport costs \$65 and also is valid for 1-year.

I have had several questions recently about how the National Parks Pass relates to us or affects us. Neither the Golden Eagle Passport, nor the National Parks Pass are applicable at Corps of Engineers sites and facilities, because we do not charge entrance fees. Although it does not apply to Corps parks, you and all Corps members having contact with our recreation visitors need to be aware of it.

Please contact me if you have questions. (Judith V. Rice, HQ02, (202) 761-1795)

U.S. Army Birthday Ball to Be Held on June 16

The U.S. Army Birthday Ball will be held on June 16, from 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Hilton Washington and Towers, Washington, D.C. The event is open to all active duty, reserve component, retired service members, Department of the Army civilians, their family members and guests. Dress for the occasion is Formal attire – Black Tie, Dress or Mess Blues, or Class A with White Shirt and Bow Tie. The cost is \$45 per person.

For more information, visit the Army Ball web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/armylink/birthday> or call the Army Ball Hotline at (703) 325-8114.

Commander's Mailbox

ERDC team members are reminded that an electronic mailbox has been established to allow employees to send questions and/or comments to the Commander. If an employee wishes to remain anonymous, his or her name will be deleted from the question before it is forwarded to the Commander for comment. Employees' questions will be answered via return e-mail. Answers to anonymous and frequently asked questions will be posted in the Employee Information Bulletin.

The address in Outlook is, "ERDC Commander." Again, all information is kept strictly confidential and all questions are addressed directly by the Commander.

ERDC Publications on Internet

The ERDC Publication Bulletin serves as the official notification of new ERDC forms and publication, as well as rescissions or changes to existing forms or publications. As of Sept. 10, 1999, ERDC official publications ceased to be printed (i.e., Center Regulations, Circulars, Pamphlets, or Commander's Policy Memoranda). All ERDC official publications are now distributed in electronic format on the ERDC web site located at <http://erdc.usace.army.mil/pubs/index.htm>.

Calendar of Events

May 22-26	American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
June 8	Retirement Luncheon for Lt. Gen. Ballard at the Fort Belvoir Officers' Club
June 9	Retirement Ceremony for Lt. Gen. Ballard, 10 a.m. Summerall Field, Fort Myer, Va.
June 15	Engineer Day Ceremony, Conference Room 1 at 9 a.m.
June 22	TEC Open House 10 a.m. until Noon
June 22	TEC Picnic at Veterans Memorial Park, Woodbridge, Va.
June 23	TEC Blood Drive

Departures

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Date</u>
John Clark	OD	June 4, 2000

FOR THE DIRECTOR

JACKIE L. BRYANT
Public Affairs Office