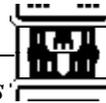


Detroit District
Sandrops

US Army Corps of Engineers



Special 1998
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Change of Command

Special Edition

DE looking forward to taking district into next millennium

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the Detroit District for the warm welcome given to my family. We are thrilled to be here and look forward to our stay. For myself, I am honored by the opportunity to work with such a wonderful group of professionals.

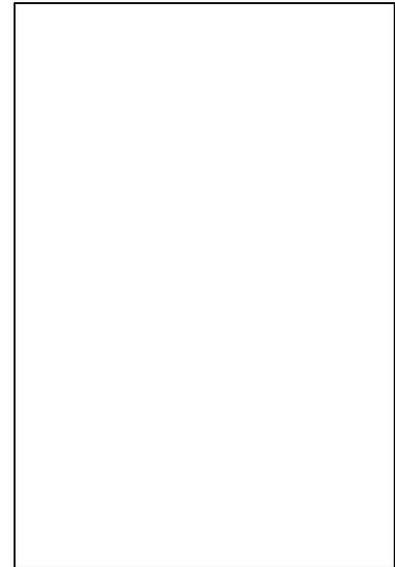
It has often been said that the only constant is change. For the Army Corps of Engineers, that is a very true statement. Many of you witnessed the change of command ceremony between myself and Lt. Col. Haid. While that ceremony represented change, it also represented continuity. For the Detroit District, "we still have the same mission to accomplish, and I am confident that you will continue to lead the way in customer support and in finding innovative solutions to the challenges ahead."

I look forward to meeting each of you over the next few months. I recognize that a large portion of the district staff is located at various area offices outside the Detroit area; one of my priorities is to talk to each of you and meet the customers you support.

As we quickly head into the 21st century, USACE and the district have much to be proud of and even more to look forward to. Your many accomplishments to date are setting the standard for the Great Lakes Region.

In the short time I have been here, it is clear to me that LRE is fully implementing the Chief's vision.

You are *revolutionizing effectiveness* by creating business processes that are tailored to best meet the needs of the Nation and by your efforts to drastically improve customer support. Clearly you are *seeking growth opportunities* as demonstrated by aggressively marketing the capabilities of the district.



Lt. Col. Robert Davis
District Engineer

Finally, the district is investing in its people. This can be seen by the developmental opportunities within various organizations across the district. Additionally, it is apparent that a new culture is taking hold. This new culture is one focused on the team

concept with the customer at the central position. The project management team is the key to this new culture. No longer is the "stovepipe" system our only master. We

now work within a career field and on a variety of teams made up of the different skills needed to deliver the product and ultimately delight the customer.

As a final note, I know that I share your thoughts as we bid farewell to Lt. Col. Haid and his family. They will be missed and we wish them the very best as they continue to serve this great Nation.

***"...deliver the product...
delight the customer."***

- Lt. Col. Robert Davis
Detroit District Engineer

Soundings

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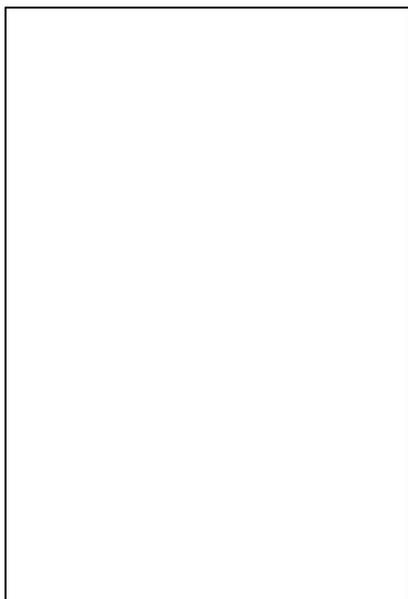
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Ceremonious event introduces commander to employees and stakeholders

Lt. Col. Robert J. Davis became Detroit's 47th commander July 8, before an audience of well wishers and supporters as the 70th Army Band played during the traditional ceremony in the AFSCME Council 25 Detroit Regional Office Building.



Lt. Col. Davis greets guests as new Detroit commander.

Brig. Gen. Hans VanWinkle, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division commander, led the ceremony as Lt. Col. Thomas Haid passed the reigns to Davis so he could charge on in to the next millennium.

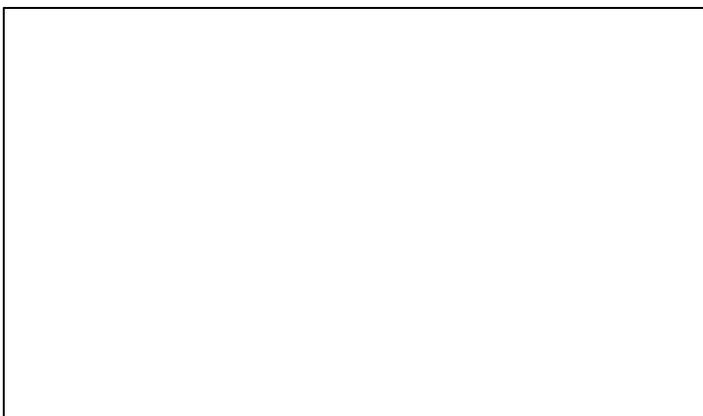
For the first time in recent history a commander from Detroit, Haid, was retired from the Army during the ceremony. He was given the Army Medal of Meritorious Service along

with other gifts and recognition, while wife, Rebecca was praised and thanked for her hard work and dedication to the Army with the Commander's Award for Public Service.

Prior to coming to Detroit Davis served as Executive Officer to the Chief of Engineers at the Corps Headquarters in Washington D.C.

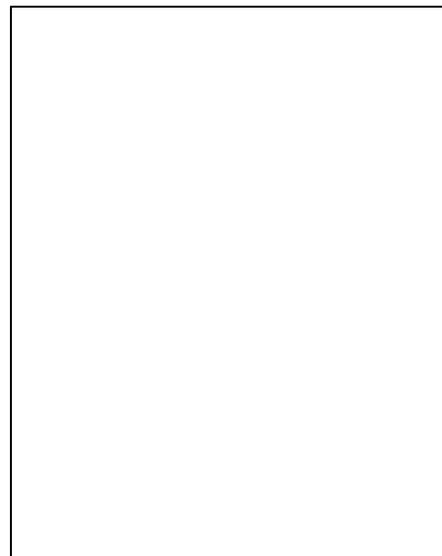
Davis graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1980 with a bachelor of science degree and was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers. He later earned masters degrees in civil engineering and mechanical engineering from Colorado State University. He is a graduate of the Engineer Office Basic and Advanced Courses and the Army Command and General Staff

College. He is a registered professional engineer from



the state of Virginia.

His major command and staff assignments include the Director of Public Works for the 6th Area Support Group in Stuttgart, Germany; Executive Officer in the 10th and 9th Engineer Battalions, Schweinfurt, Germany; Staff Officer, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineer, at Headquarters, U.S. Army, Europe, Heidelberg, Germany; Associate



Lt. Col. Davis assumes command of the Detroit District as Brig. Gen. VanWinkle hands him the Corps flag.

Professor, Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York; and Commander, C Company, 14th Engineer Battalion at Fort Ord, California.

Davis' awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Parachutist Wings, and the

Ranger Tab. Davis is a native of San Diego, Calif. He and wife Cecile, of Coronado, Calif., are the parents of son, Robert, and daughters, Maren and Paige.

Lt. Col. Haid and wife Becky, receive certificates and medals as he retires from a life of federal service.

Former commander says good-bye to district family and Army

It's been a wonderful two years here in Detroit, and

certainly has been one of the highlights of my life. It's been the most challenging and rewarding assignment, I will ever have... and has certainly passed all to quickly. The best part of the past two years, like the rest of my military career, has



Lt. Col. Thomas Haid, former Detroit District engineer, shows gift received at retirement luncheon.

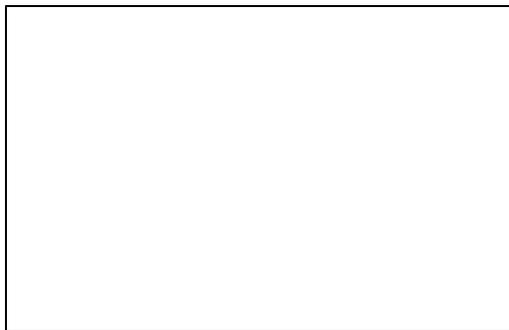
been the opportunity to meet and work with many dedicated people and I'd like to quickly say thanks.

To the men and women of the Detroit District, thank you for your hard work, and for always doing your best. Thank you for making it fun for me to come to work.

Thank you for following me even when I charged off in the wrong direction. You've faced many challenges over the past two years, and you'll face more under Colonel Davis --

but I'm confident you'll face these challenges successfully under his leadership.

As we leave today Becky and I would like to join the District in welcoming Cecile and Bob Davis, and their family, to Detroit. We know you'll have as much fun as we did, and will enjoy your time here.



Arnie Meriwether hands Becky Haid flowers as she and Lt. Col. Haid say good-bye at his farewell luncheon.

In closing, let me assure you that I leave today with fond memories. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. God bless you all.

-- Lt. Col. Thomas Haid

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