

# Lead The Way

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**T**o all the engineers who don't run the world but who make it run, I'd like to once again extend my heartfelt appreciation for all you do to help make our Regiment great. Here at the Engineer School, we have won, then lost—and in some cases won back—key battles in regard to our Regiment's organizations, equipment, personnel, and doctrine. Although some of the faces have changed, and will continue to change, the mission here at Fort Leonard Wood will always be to ensure that our Regiment is relevant and integral to the Army's transformation.

I have visited most of our engineer Soldiers throughout the world, and I'm always impressed with their enthusiasm and professionalism when they perform their duties. Our engineer Soldiers are the busiest in our Army and are the busiest they have ever been over the last 20 years.

Soon Fort Leonard Wood will host two important yearly events for our Regiment—ENFORCE and the Best Sapper Competition:

**ENFORCE 2008.** This year's ENFORCE, with the theme of "Building Great Engineers," will have more than one regimental concept, as we bridge the gaps between our Corps and Regiment. We will leverage all of the experience from our Corps's senior leadership, as well as our civilians. ENFORCE 2008 will begin in St. Louis, from 4 - 6 May, and the conclusion will be at Fort Leonard Wood, from 7-10 May. I look forward to seeing many of you at this year's events, and I hope that you are planning to spend the week renewing friendships and resolving issues as we focus on our full-spectrum engineering capability in support of our Army.

ENFORCE 2008 will be filled with extraordinary events and social activities in both St. Louis and Fort Leonard Wood, to include vendor displays, the Regimental Review, a barbecue, an Army Engineer Association luncheon, the Engineer Run, the Regimental Ball, the Engineer Memorial Dedication Service, and the Best Sapper Competition. The conference will culminate with the annual Regimental Dinner, where we



will recognize our 2008 Itschner, Sturgis, and Grizzly Award winners, along with our Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Honorary Command Sergeant Major, and Honorary Warrant Officer. To sum it up, ENFORCE 2008 will undoubtedly instill in each of us an immense sense of pride in our Regiment.

**Best Sapper Competition.** The 3d Annual Best Sapper Competition, held at Fort Leonard Wood from 6 - 8 May, will coincide with ENFORCE for the second time. Last year's competition was won by the 66th Engineer Battalion from Hawaii, which took first place for

the last two years. *The ultimate measure of a person is not where he stands in the moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.* I challenge all high-speed, qualified sapper Soldiers to dethrone the Tropic Lightning and claim the top honors as the best sapper team.

The competition, which includes events involving demolitions, mountaineering, U.S. and threat weapons, land navigation, and more, tests the knowledge, physical prowess, and mental fortitude of engineer Soldiers across the Regiment. Conducted in two-man buddy teams, the competition is open to all personnel serving in a 21-series MOS, or anyone who has completed the Sapper Leader Course. This is the defining competition for the Engineer Regiment and its Soldiers. So select and train your best teams for this extraordinary competition! I encourage all commanders and sergeants major to plan ahead and come to Fort Leonard Wood to show your support to our Sappers.

In closing, I am extremely proud of our Regiment's Soldiers for their contributions and positive impact over the past year. I am especially proud of the sappers who are deployed around the world in harm's way. To those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of freedom, justice, and the American way of life, neither you nor your Families will be forgotten. God Bless America!