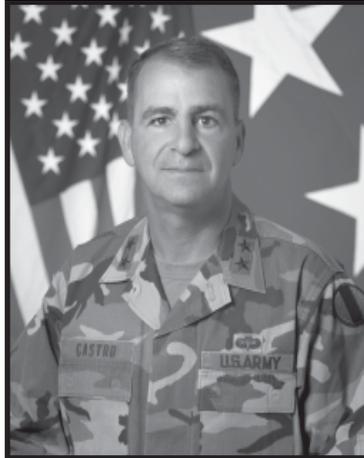


# Clear The Way

By Major General Randal R. Castro  
Commandant, United States Army Engineer School



Welcome to our latest issue of *Engineer*. Greetings to all of you who are serving from all around the globe. And thank you for taking the time to sit with us and read the latest experiences from the great Soldiers in our Regiment. Each of you performs a vital job across the force, and I want you to know I appreciate the role each of you plays in making the Army function from day to day. Without you, we could not accomplish all that we have. I want to thank you all for what you do for our Regiment and our country.



As we approach four years of fighting the Global War on Terrorism, we are busy as ever, trying to synchronize major events for our Army and the Engineer Regiment. I know most of our engineers are either deploying, deployed, or recently deployed. Many of you will also be a part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) reorganization and Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy, which will move forward-stationed units to CONUS-based posts. While we do all these deployments and movements between installations, we are going to use this inertia to transform the Regiment in conjunction with the Army's efforts to modularize into brigade combat teams (BCTs), units of employment-tactical (UEX), and units of employment-operational (UEY). We received great news recently that the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army approved the Future Engineer Force Update. It is a significant event for our Army and will require everyone's efforts to accomplish.

Now more than ever, we have the ability to keep you informed on what is happening around the Regiment. I have spoken to you all recently on a number of subjects that can be found on our Engineer School Web site at <http://www.wood.army.mil/eschool/>.

Another tool that we are leveraging to provide you relevant information is "The Engineer Blast." It is a bimonthly e-mail newsletter that provides current news and updates throughout the Regiment. If you have not seen it, ask your unit leadership to pass it down to you.

This issue is focused on engineer operations in urban and complex terrain. It is one of our greatest challenges in theater today, and we must become proficient in understanding assured mobility in this environment. We have had some great articles from the folks that are making things

happen. We will continue to address this subject at our Army Engineer Association Conference, 24-27 October 2005, in Orlando, Florida. I look forward to seeing our Regiment's leadership there to share their experiences and lessons learned. I want to take your feedback and return to the Engineer School and spiral your ideas into our doctrine and lesson plans for our Soldiers and young leaders.

We want to continue making this a viable and relevant professional bulletin. Continue to submit your articles and share your experiences and lessons learned with the Regiment.

As I close this message, I ask you to take a deep breath, let it out slowly, and relax. Don't forget what is important... I want you to remain balanced in your lives, contribute to your team of teams, and passionately make a positive difference wherever you serve.

Thanks again for all you do for our Regiment and the Army!  
*Essays!*

Carry On!



The back cover of this issue of *Engineer* and the poster in the center are a tribute to Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith, an engineer Soldier and the recipient of the first Medal of Honor for service during Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism. Sergeant Smith, whose selfless service to his country was the epitome of the Warrior Ethos, has brought great honor to the Army and to the Engineer Regiment.