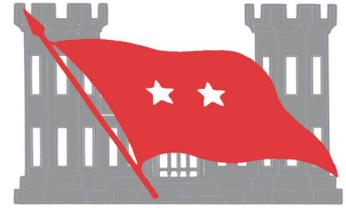
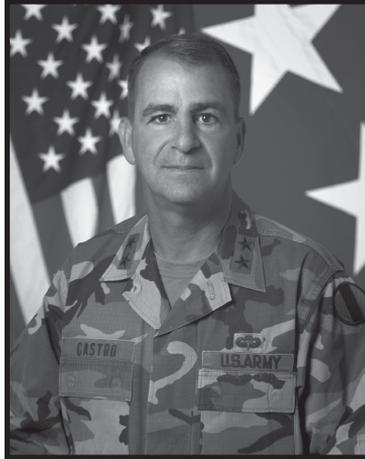


Clear The Way

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



Welcome back to our Fall issue of *Engineer*. We are proud to get this latest issue out to the field. Because of the tremendous feedback we received on our last issue, we are running a second installment on engineer operations in urban and complex terrain. We continue to compile great input from the Regiment on this preeminent subject. This topic continues to challenge our Regiment and the Army. It is such a focused subject that we, in conjunction with the Army Engineer Association (AEA), considered how we could gather our experienced field commanders with the schoolhouse and leaders of industry to discuss the matter.



current doctrine and tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP). Today, with a threat that is changing daily, our leaders in the field are developing not new TTP, but current “best practices” that have generated success for our engineers deployed in theater. We at the schoolhouse are able to capture these and will ensure that we train these **skills** to our young leaders heading out to the field. We are even seeking ways to procure the **tools** you say you need to accomplish the engineer missions you are performing as full-spectrum engineers! The challenge for our Regiment and the Army is that the next war will not be the war we are fighting today. Therefore, we must be

We were able to accomplish this dialogue the last week of October at the AEA Engineer Regimental Conference in Orlando, Florida. In his “Master and Commander” article on page 4, Lieutenant Colonel Tony Funkhouser goes into more detail on what was discussed. Let me tell you that it was one of the best engineer conferences ever. I say “ever” because of the positive feedback I received. It was a solution-focused week with an outstanding turnout of colonel and lieutenant colonel commanders and command sergeants major and key leaders from across the force from the Active, National Guard, and Reserve Components. Leaders were afforded the opportunity to voice their concerns and/or solutions to specific challenges we discussed during breakout sessions. These work groups exposed the passion our leaders have toward developing solutions to this complex problem of enabling mobility in concert with maneuver in urban and complex terrain. As many of you know, there is no “silver bullet” solution, so we must develop a holistic and comprehensive solution set.

A couple of years ago, the Engineer School spearheaded our doctrine development and trained the force on the

a future-focused organization to shape the Regiment while enabling the Current Force. No easy feat! It is your passionate input and dialogue with the Regiment that will allow us to enable the Current Force.

A special thanks to all who attended the conference and especially to the AEA leaders, the guest speakers—to include Lieutenant General Melcher, Brigadier General Ham, Major General Bostick, and Lieutenant General Strock (whose briefs can be found in the Engineer School’s Army Knowledge Online [AKO] folder)—the leaders of industry, and those who worked diligently behind the scenes to make everything happen. Also, my thanks to all of you who shared your thoughts and experiences on our Regiment’s No. 1 challenge by contributing to this professional bulletin!

Lastly, thanks to all our engineers who are on the front lines accomplishing the mission and preserving freedom. We, and the entire Regiment, are committed to support you and your families! You were all in our thoughts during the holiday season. Be safe and see you next issue!

Carry On!



We anticipate hosting another training seminar for the leaders of the Regiment during the first week of May 2006. Details will be provided soon on our Web site, on the *Message to the Regiment* e-mail, and here in *Engineer*, The Professional Bulletin of Army Engineers.