



# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District



## Change of Command Ceremony

July 16, 2021

Washington, D.C.

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## Sequence of Events

### Arrival of the Official Party

### Presentation of the Colors

### National Anthem

### Invocation

Colonel Geoffrey Bailey, Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### Welcoming Remarks

Lieutenant Colonel Geoffrey Kuhlmann, Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

### Change of Command

Mr. David Morrow, Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management

Colonel John T. Litz

Colonel Estee S. Pinchasin

### Command Remarks

Brigadier General Thomas J. Tickner, Commander and Division Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, North Atlantic Division

### Retiring of the Colors

### The Engineer Song and The Army Song

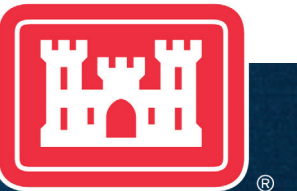
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## History of the Change of Command

Welcome to the Change of Command for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District. In today's ceremony, command of the Baltimore District will be transferred from Colonel John T. Litz, Commander and District Engineer for the past three years, to Colonel Estee S. Pinchasin.

The change of command ceremony is rooted in military history dating back to the 18th century during the reign of Frederick the Great of Prussia. At that time, organizational flags were developed with color arrangements and symbols unique to each particular unit. To this flag and its commander, the Soldiers of the unit would dedicate their loyalty and trust. When a change of command was to take place, the flag was passed to the individual assuming the command. This gesture was accomplished in front of the unit, so all could see and witness their new leader assuming dutiful position. The individual who held the flag also held the Soldiers' allegiance. This symbolic tradition has survived throughout military history.

Colonel Litz, the outgoing Commander, receives the organizational colors from Mr. David Morrow, the Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management and senior civilian for the Baltimore District. As a symbol of relinquishing command, he then presents the colors to Brigadier General Thomas J. Tickner, Commander and Division Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, North Atlantic Division, who in turn presents them to Colonel Pinchasin, the incoming Commander. Colonel Pinchasin then hands the colors back to Mr. Morrow, symbolizing the continuity and strength of the civilian workforce.





## Brigadier General Thomas J. Tickner



BG Tickner is Commander and Division Engineer of USACE, North Atlantic Division. He took command on July 15, 2020.

The North Atlantic Division is one of nine regions providing engineering and construction services to the Nation. It is the USACE Headquarters for the Northeastern United States, Europe and Africa, with offices in Concord, Mass.; New York City; Philadelphia; Baltimore; Norfolk, Va.; and Wiesbaden, Germany. As Division Commander, BG Tickner oversees an annual program of more than \$5 billion to plan, design and construct projects to support the military, protect America's water resources, mitigate risk from disasters, and restore and enhance the environment. He is also responsible for a variety of Division engineering and construction activities for international, federal, state and local governments and agencies in more than a dozen Northeastern states, as well as overseas.

Prior to assuming command of the North Atlantic Division, BG Tickner served as the commanding general of the Pacific Ocean Division (POD), USACE, Fort Shafter, Hawaii. BG Tickner has served in a variety of tactical, operational, and strategic assignments, spanning a period of 27 years.

BG Tickner was commissioned a Distinguished Military Graduate through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1989.

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He began his military career as a platoon leader, executive officer and assistant operations officer in the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) followed by an assignment to the 84th Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where he held company command. He served in various assignments with the Sacramento District, USACE, to include a deployment to lead the Los Alamos Fire Recovery Office. BG Tickner then served as the Operations Officer and Executive Officer for the 52nd Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy), Fort Carson, Colo., where he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He then served as an Engineer Branch Assignment Officer at the Army's Human Resources Command, followed by command at the Philadelphia District, USACE, from June 2008 to July 2010. BG Tickner worked as the Military Assistant for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), followed by commanding the Savannah District, USACE, from July 2013 to June 2015. Prior to commanding POD, he served as Chief, Army Budget Liaison, in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, following his return from a one-year tour in Afghanistan, where he served as the Engineer Director for the Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan.

BG Tickner is a native of Wayne, Pa. He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Pennsylvania State University in 1990, his Master of Science in Civil Engineering from University of Colorado at Boulder in 1999, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Eisenhower School, National Defense University in 2013. He is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. BG Tickner is a graduate of the Airborne, Air Assault, and Ranger courses. He holds a Project Management Professional Certification.

His military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, the Engineer Silver de Fleury Medal, Combat Action Badge, and Army Staff Identification Badge.



## Colonel John T. Litz *(Outgoing)*



Colonel John T. Litz has been Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, since July 2018.

A native of Kingsport, Tennessee, he received his commission as an Engineer Officer in 1995, after graduating from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. His initial assignment was to the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he served as a Sapper Platoon Leader, Light Equipment Platoon Leader in the 887th Engineer Company (Light Equipment), and as Battalion Assistant. In August 1999, he served in a variety of staff functions, first with the 1st Engineer Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, in Bamberg, Germany, and then with the 82nd Engineer Battalion. He then served as Company Commander of A Company, 82nd Engineer Battalion, where he completed two operational deployments to Kosovo.

This was his third tour with USACE, and second time commanding a district. Previously, he was assigned to Louisville District from June 2004 to May 2007, serving as a project engineer and project manager. He deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the Gulf Region District, South, and deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with Afghanistan Engineer District, Kandahar Area Office. He later served as Commander of Charleston District from July 2013 to July 2015. He also served as Executive Director for the USACE Civil Works program from July 2015 to July 2016.

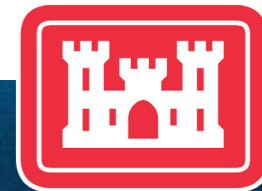
Prior to his time at Baltimore District, he served as the Operations and Plans Division Chief for the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management on the Department of the Army staff in the Pentagon.

From June 2008 to July 2011, he served as the Regimental Engineer for the 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Georgia, deploying several times in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He served from July 2011 to June 2012 as the Command Engineer for Joint Special Operations Task Force 5-35 and as the Deputy Brigade Commander for the 199th Infantry Brigade from June 2012 to June 2013.

His military education includes the Engineer Officer Basic Course; Infantry Captain's Career Course; Combined Arms and Services Staff School; Command and General Staff College; and the U.S. Army War College. His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Clemson University, South Carolina. He holds a Project Management Professional Certification.

His military awards and decorations include two Bronze Star Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, NATO Medals for Kosovo and Afghanistan, the Air Assault Badge, Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

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## Colonel Estee S. Pinchasin *(Incoming)*



Colonel Estee S. Pinchasin will become the 69th commander and first female commander of the Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on 16 July 2021. COL Pinchasin is originally from Long Beach, New York, and commissioned as an Engineer Officer through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in July 1998. As a lieutenant, she served as a Platoon Leader, Training Officer, and Company Executive Officer in the 30th Engineer Battalion (Topographic) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Upon promotion to captain, she completed the Aviation Captain's Career Course at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and the Combined Arms and Services Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

This is COL Pinchasin's third assignment with USACE. Previously, she was assigned to the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, deploying several times in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. From January 2003 to July 2006, she served as the Battalion Logistics Officer, Commander of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Battalion Liaison Officer in Iraq, and Battalion Adjutant. Following graduate school and promotion to major, she served as the Area Engineer for the New York City Metro Area Office in the New York District. From New York, she deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, to serve as Area Officer-In-Charge for the Kandahar Area Office in Afghanistan Engineer District – South.

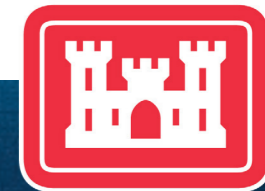
Prior to command she served as the Engineer Branch Chief in the U.S. Army Human Resources Command from August 2018 to August 2020, overseeing the assignment and talent management of 4,300 active-duty Engineer Officers and Warrant Officers.

From June 2011 to June 2013, she served as the Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer of the 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction Effects) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. COL Pinchasin returned to Fort Leavenworth to attend the School of Advanced Military Studies and was subsequently assigned to I Corps Headquarters at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. From August 2014 to June 2016, she served as a Corps Plans Officer followed by Deputy G35 (Future Operations). From July 2016 to July 2018, she commanded the 19th Engineer Battalion (Construction Effects), 20th Engineer Brigade, XVIII Airborne Corps, at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

COL Pinchasin earned a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science from Boston University, Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Stanford University, a Master of Military Arts and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and a Master of Science in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. COL Pinchasin holds a Project Management Professional Certification.

COL Pinchasin's awards and decorations include two Bronze Star Medals, six Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, NATO Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and the Army Engineer Association's Bronze de Fleury Medal.

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## The Baltimore District

Since the Nation's fight for independence, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has played a vital role in its development. The Baltimore District has a long and storied history that extends as far back as the early 1800s when USACE constructed Fort McHenry, successfully shielding Baltimore against British attack in the War of 1812. When the threat of coastal attack diminished in the 1820s, Baltimore District turned its attention to developing roadways, railways, canals and more, marking the beginning of the district's civil works mission.

Today, the approximately 1,200 members of Baltimore District deliver a \$1.7 billion program annually to provide vital engineering, design, construction and water resources management solutions to the mid-Atlantic region. The district's area of responsibility spans the Susquehanna River, Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay watersheds, and 7,000 miles of coastline.

Baltimore District has an extensive flood risk management program in which nearly 150 miles of levee systems are inspected and 16 dams are operated, translating in billions of dollars of flood damages prevented. The district maintains 290 miles of federal channels, including dredging the Baltimore Harbor, in which most of the material is beneficially used to restore and expand Poplar Island in the Chesapeake Bay. The district has a vast ecosystem restoration mission that includes restoring native oyster populations in the Bay. Baltimore District is the only district to operate a public utility – the Washington Aqueduct. The district provides water resources, renovation and construction support to 14 military installations, and supports high-profile stakeholders like the Pentagon, NSA, and the Secret Service. The district cleans up formerly used defense sites, decommissions and deactivates former nuclear power plants, and performs cleanup of low-level radioactive waste from the Nation's early atomic weapons program. The district also has a vast recreation mission and hosts the top-earning USACE site in the Nation at Raystown Lake. District volunteer personnel deploy stateside and overseas to support natural disasters, emergency response and other critical missions.

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## The Washington Aqueduct

Capt. Montgomery C. Meigs, an Army Corps officer and an 1832 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, was directed by Congress to design and build an aqueduct to provide Potomac River water to the Nation's capital. He did so in just a matter of years, with service beginning Jan. 3, 1859, supplying fresh water via gravity from Great Falls for domestic and commercial use, as well as firefighting.

Since then, USACE has substantially expanded and improved the capacity and function of the Washington Aqueduct from its original mission. Today, the Aqueduct, a division of Baltimore District, produces an average of 135 million gallons of drinking water per day at two treatment plants for approximately one million citizens living, working or visiting the National Capital Region.



All funding for operations, maintenance, studies and capital improvements comes from revenue generated by selling drinking water to its three wholesale customers: DC Water, Arlington County and Fairfax Water.

Washington Aqueduct's vision is to be a leader in the water treatment and supply industry through employing state-of-the-art technology, hiring highly-skilled and trained personnel, and implementing modern processes.



Delivering vital engineering solutions in collaboration with our partners to serve and strengthen the Nation, energize the economy and reduce disaster risks.



## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

### The Engineer Song

Pin the Castle on my collar.  
I've done my training for the team. You  
can call me an engineer Soldier. The  
warrior spirit has been my dream.

Essayons, whether in war or peace we  
will bear our red and white. Essayons! We  
serve America and the U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers.

Essayons! Essayons!

### The Army Song

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free. Count the brave, count the  
true, who have fought to victory. We're the Army and proud of our name! We're the  
Army and proudly proclaim:

#### *First Chorus:*

First to fight for the right,  
And to build the Nation's might,  
And the Army goes rolling along.  
Proud of all we have done,  
Fighting till the battle's won,  
And the Army goes rolling along.

#### *Refrain:*

Then it's hi! hi! hey!  
The Army's on its way.  
Count off the cadence loud and strong;  
For where'er we go,  
You will always know  
That the Army goes rolling along.

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