



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Pacific Ocean Division Commander Receives First Star, Gets Inducted Into Nevada-Reno ROTC Hall of Fame**

**(FORT SHAFTER, HI NR 002-09)** The Commander and Division Engineer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, Fort Shafter, Hawaii, Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter was presented his first star as a general officer at the Nevada State Capital January 9.

Lt. Gen. James D. Thurman Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, Department of the Army officiated at the ceremony which was held in the capital's Old Assembly Chambers.

Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter, a native of Nevada, became Pacific Ocean Division's commander during a ceremony on July 29, 2008 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

Prior to his assignment in Hawaii, Brig. Gen. Yenter was Chief of Staff, G-3-5-7, Headquarters, U.S. Army Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Brig. Gen. Yenter's family was in attendance for the ceremony. His wife Lisa Yenter and his mother Dorothy Yenter attached his new rank to his uniform while Lt. Gen. Thurman pinned a star on his beret and administered the oath of office. Daughter Lindsay Yenter and son Marcus Yenter assisted.

A one-star general officer's flag was presented to Yenter by his father, Lt. Col. (Retired) Kenneth Yenter.

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## **2-2-2 YENTER STAR**

In addition to receiving his first star, Brig. Gen. Yenter was inducted into the University of Nevada-Reno ROTC Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame allows the university to recognize ROTC graduates who have excelled in their military careers.

Brig. Gen. Yenter is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering.

Brig. Gen. Yenter was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in 1981 after graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the University of Nevada ROTC program.

As the Pacific Division commander, Brig. Gen. Yenter is responsible for the engineering design, construction and real estate management for the U.S. Army and Air Forces in Hawaii and Alaska and for all Department of Defense agencies and U.S. installations in Japan, the Republic of Korea and Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

The Division also administers the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' federal water resources development and regulatory programs, which govern work in the waters and wetlands of Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Division's Civil Works mission includes construction and operation of inland waterways; construction and maintenance of ports and harbors; hydropower; flood control; and environmental regulation.

The Division, through its four districts located in Japan, Korea, Alaska and Honolulu, is also charged with responding to natural and manmade disasters such as floods, hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis.

The Pacific Ocean Division is one of nine divisions worldwide that make up the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Division has the largest geographic area of any of the nine divisions spanning across more than a third of the globe.

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### **3-3-3 YENTER STAR**

Brig. Gen. Yenter's staff assignments include S3 and Assistant Division Engineer, 307<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Airborne), 82d Airborne Division; Staff Engineer, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Operational Detachment – Delta (Airborne); Chief of Engineer Plans, HQ SFOR, Sarajevo, Bosnia; CJ-7 Director and Task Force Engineer, Combined and Joint Task Force 180, Bagram Afghanistan; Corps Engineer, XVIII Airborne Corps; C7 Director of Engineering, Multi-National Corps – Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq; and G-3, XVIII Airborne Corps.

His previous commands include Company B, 307<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Airborne) 82d Airborne Division; Engineer Troop, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Operational Detachment – Delta (Airborne); 27<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Airborne); and the 20<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade (Combat)(Airborne Corps), Multi-National Corps – Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06.

Brig. Gen. Yenter's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Meritorious Unit Citation, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, NATO Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, Sapper Tab, Belgian, Canadian, French, Australian and German Airborne Badges, and the Bronze de Fleury Medal.

In addition to his degree from the University of Nevada, Reno, Brig. Gen. Yenter is a graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder with a Master of Science Degree in Water Resources Development and Management. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff School and the Naval War College where he earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Brig. Gen. Yenter is a registered Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

He is married to the former Lisa Talamo and they have two children, Lindsay and Mark.

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