



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

15 MAR 1991

CECC-T (27-1a)

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Chief Counsel Visits to USACE Subordinate Commands

1. It is my intent, as requested and discussed at various Legal Leadership Conferences, to establish a program of periodic visits to USACE Subordinate Command legal offices.

2. The purpose of these visits is to meet personally with as many as possible of the approximately 400 attorneys who serve the Corps of Engineers and to learn more about them, their professional working environment, and their concerns with respect to both legal and legal management issues. I also expect to communicate to them my views and concerns about current Corps-wide legal services missions and issues.

3. I intend that these visits be as open, informative, informal and free from disruption to the USACE Subordinate Command as possible. Accordingly, I request that apart from the customary courtesy visit to the Commander, formal functions be kept to a minimum. I want maximum opportunity to talk with all attorneys, both in groups and individually, and in both the Office of Counsel and the Real Estate organization at the visited USACE Subordinate Command. Time for this must be incorporated into every visit schedule. If at all possible, it would be helpful, whenever appropriate, if the USACE Subordinate Command Counsel can arrange to include meetings with local Staff Judge Advocates and their staffs as part of the visit schedule.

4. I want it to be absolutely clear that I do not expect USACE Subordinate Command legal managers or anyone else to feel that they have any obligation to arrange any social function. If such functions are part of the visit schedule, they should be as informal, inexpensive, and inclusive (on a voluntary basis) as possible.

5. Visits will be scheduled as far in advance as possible. A proposed schedule will be published and distributed from my office from time to time. In establishing this schedule, the following considerations will apply:

a. It is not realistic or economical to set up and adhere strictly to a formal schedule of visits. It is frequently necessary to schedule visits in conjunction with other mission needs at a particular location or a nearby location and I will, in the interest of saving both time and travel resources, make maximum use of combined purpose travel.

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b. I will be alert to the possibilities of combining visits in conjunction with other scheduled events at the same or nearby locations, and I or my staff will inform you of such possibilities. For example, if I am in your general area for a speech, a Senior Leadership Conference, or any other type of business, it might be practical and economical to schedule a meeting with your attorneys before or after the other scheduled business.

c. To the extent practicable, I will give priority on the schedule to those USACE Subordinate Commands which specifically request a visit and to those which I have not visited in recent years. It would be particularly helpful with respect to those USACE Subordinate Commands I have not visited recently if the Division Counsels for such USACE Subordinate Commands would suggest dates for proposed visits, including appropriate Districts, and coordinate the proposed schedule with my office (P.O.C. Ray Powell 202-272-0035).

6. The goals of this program will be for me to make a personal visit to

a. each Division Counsel office at least once every three years;

b. each District Counsel office at least once every four years; and

c. each Laboratory or other separate USACE Subordinate Command Counsel office at least every three years.

7. As this program is implemented, I invite your suggestions and comments as to how it is working, how it might be improved, and whether it should be continued. As I stated in our discussions at various conferences, it has to work for you and your attorneys or it isn't worthwhile.



LESTER EDELMAN
Chief Counsel