



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Savannah District

Colonel Edward J. Kertis

District Commander



Col. Edward J. Kertis assumed command of the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, June 29, 2007. As District Commander, Kertis is responsible for a \$4 billion military design and construction program; water resources planning, design and construction; hazardous, toxic and radiological waste cleanup; and real estate activities. Additionally, the Savannah District supports 12 Army and Air Force installations in Georgia and North Carolina, and water resource activities in Georgia and portions of South Carolina. The Savannah District performs work nationwide and worldwide in support of military design and construction; master planning; hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste clean-up at Formerly Used Defense sites; real estate activities for the Department of Defense; emergency management operations for state and federal agencies and in support of Overseas Contingency Operations.

Kertis came to the Savannah District following completion of the one-year U.S. Air Force Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala.

Before entering the Air War College, he commanded the Walla Walla District, USACE, in Washington State from 2002-2004. His troop assignments include service as a platoon leader, staff officer, and later as battalion executive officer in the 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), Fort Bragg, N.C.; company commander in the 41st Engineer Battalion (Light), Fort Drum, N.Y.; and engineer company commander in the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment - Delta. Kertis' Corps of Engineers' assignments include service as an environmental staff officer in the Corps' Portland District, and area commander of the Honduras/El Salvador Project Offices in the Mobile District. He was the inaugural commander of the Northern District, Gulf Region Division, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he managed construction projects in support of Coalition forces and the Iraqi government.

His joint assignments include serving as the branch chief of the Special Operations Forces Program Branch at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in Alexandria, Va.; serving as Combat Engineer Section Chief at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Belgium; and serving as the military advisor and chief of staff to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative for Afghanistan in Kabul, the former foreign minister of Turkey, Minister Hikmet Çetin.

Kertis was born and raised in Daytona Beach, Fla. He graduated from Stetson University in Deland, Fla., in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He also earned a Master's degree in environmental engineering sciences from the University of Florida in 1993, majoring in wetlands ecology.

Kertis' awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (one oak leaf cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Ranger Tab.

Kertis is an avid snowboarder and sailor.