



## **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**Colonel D. Peter Helmlinger**

**South Pacific Division Commander**



Colonel Pete Helmlinger assumed duties as Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Pacific Division on August 18, 2016. Established in 1888 and headquartered in San Francisco, the Division is one of nine regional commands for USACE. The region encompasses California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho and Texas. Four operating districts are headquartered in Albuquerque, Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco. As Division commander, he is responsible for leading a workforce of more than 2,300 military and civilians and managing a \$4 billion military and civil works program.

Colonel Helmlinger was commissioned as an Engineer Officer from the U.S. Military Academy in 1988 and received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He also holds a Master of Science in Civil Engineering (Construction Engineering & Management) from Stanford University and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. His military education includes the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms Services & Staff School, Command & General Staff College, and Senior Service College. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Virginia.

Prior to this assignment, Colonel Helmlinger served as the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in Washington, D.C. Colonel Helmlinger's command assignments include Commander, USACE Transatlantic Afghanistan District, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/FREEDOM'S SENTINEL; Commander, USACE Europe District, Wiesbaden, Germany; and Commander, 14th Engineer Battalion (Rugged!), OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. His operational experience also includes tours in OIF as a Brigade Executive Officer and Battalion S-3.

Colonel Helmlinger's other assignments include Assistant Director, Civil Works, HQ USACE; Executive Officer, 555th Combat Support Brigade (Maneuver Enhancement), Fort Lewis, Washington; Executive Officer and S-3, 54th Engineer Battalion (Mechanized), Bamberg, Germany; Executive Officer, 130th Engineer Brigade, Hanau, Germany; Project Engineer, USACE Far East District, Camp Casey, Korea; Operations Officer, HQ I Corps, Fort Lewis; Company Commander and S-1, 14th Engineer Battalion, Fort Lewis and Fort Ord, California; Aide-de-Camp, USACE Pacific Ocean Division; and Platoon Leader, 65th Engineer Battalion, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (2nd award), Bronze Star Medal (3rd award), Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal (5th award), Army Commendation Medal (2nd award), Army Achievement Medal (2nd award), Meritorious Unit Commendation (3rd award), Army Superior Unit Award, Combat Action Badge, Ranger Tab, Sapper Tab, Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (Gold). He is a recipient of the Army Engineer Association Bronze de Fluery Medal.