



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Walla Walla District

News Release

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Contact: Public Affairs Office

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Phone: (509) 527-7020

Corps announces June 27 change of command ceremony

WALLA WALLA, Wash. -- The public is invited to attend the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, change of command ceremony set for 10 a.m. on June 27 at the Marcus Whitman Hotel and Conference Center here.

Lt. Col. Michael J. Farrell will assume command of the District from departing Commander Lt. Col. Anthony J. Hofmann.

Farrell most recently served as the deputy commander of the Corps' Europe District, headquartered in Weisbaden, Germany, providing planning, design, construction, environmental services and project management to meet customer infrastructure requirements; engineering services supporting the Theater Security Cooperation Plan; and field force engineering supporting the U.S. European Command and U.S. African Command. Europe District's theater of operations includes Western and Eastern Europe, Russia, Israel and most of the African continent.

Hofmann was selected for a new assignment with U.S. Army Personnel Command in Washington, D.C., where he will serve as an assignments officer for engineer, chemical and military police officers.

Col. William E. Rapp, commanding general of the Corps' Northwestern Division, will preside over the ceremony. He is responsible for five districts and their work across an area that includes all or parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota.

The June 27 ceremony will include the 104th Division U.S. Army Reserve Band's brass ensemble and a ceremonial color guard from the cadet unit of the Junior ROTC at Walla Walla High School.

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NOTE – Lt. Col. Farrell's biography is provided on a separate page distributed with this news release. A printable photo of Lt. Col. Farrell is available online at www.nww.usace.army.mil/html/offices/pa/NR/NR08_files/LTC_FarrellPhoto.jpg

MEDIA ADVISORY: News outlets planning to attend the ceremony need to RSVP the Public Affairs Office, (509) 527-7020 or cenww-pa@usace.army.mil, not later than 3 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, to arrange for one of a limited number of media-access reserved parking spaces close to the event. Requests for brief interviews with members of the ceremonial party need to be coordinated in advance with PAO to ensure access opportunities. Media equipment set-up will be allowed until 10 minutes prior to the start of this event.

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**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Walla Walla District

Michael J. Farrell

Lieutenant Colonel

Commander and District Engineer



Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Farrell will assume command of the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) on June 27, 2008. Born and raised in Monona, Wisconsin, Lieutenant Colonel Farrell was commissioned into the Corps upon graduation from Princeton University in 1989.

Lieutenant Colonel Farrell's assignments included service as a Platoon Leader and Assistant Adjutant, 237th Engineer Battalion, Heilbronn, Germany; Adjutant, 44th Engineer Battalion, Camp Howze, Korea; Assistant S3 Operations, Civil Engineer, and Company Commander, 864th Engineer Battalion, Fort Lewis, Washington; Assistant Professor of Military Science, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse; Project Engineer, Structural Engineer and Deputy Chief, Design Branch, Pittsburgh District, Corps; S3 and Executive Officer, Special Troops Battalion, Fort Richardson, Alaska; Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) Engineer, Ninewa, Iraq under the Gulf Region North District, Corps; Deputy Commander, Europe District, Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Farrell is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Scout Platoon Leadership Course, the French Commando School, and the Command and General Staff College. He has a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Princeton University, and a master of science degree in construction engineering from Cranfield University, England. He is a Chartered Engineer and Member, Institution of Civil Engineers, England.

Lieutenant Colonel Farrell's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Army Commendation Medal (two awards), Army Achievement Medal (three awards), the National Defense Service Medal (one Bronze Service Star), the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon (numeral 4), the French Commando Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.