



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

News Release

2000 Fort Point Rd
Galveston, Texas 77550
(409) 766-3004
swgpao@usace.army.mil

Release No. 071002
July 8, 2010

Sallese takes command of Corps' Galveston District

GALVESTON, Texas – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, held a change of command ceremony July 7, 2010, where Colonel Christopher W. Sallese assumed command of the Galveston District from outgoing commander Colonel David C. Weston. Colonel Thomas W. Kula, commander of the Corps' Southwestern Division, presided over the ceremony, which was held at the district's headquarters building.

"I am truly happy to be standing here in front of you as the new Galveston District commander," said Sallese. "My family and I are humbled by the presence of so many in attendance and are extremely happy to be back in Texas."

Sallese thanked outgoing commander Weston for his service to the district and Nation. Weston in turn thanked the workforce for their professionalism and endurance during many challenges and also thanked the many sponsors for their continued partnerships throughout the history of the 130-year-old district.

"This generation of Galveston professionals – or as our motto goes – Custodians of the Coast, has truly earned a special place in the history of this district," said Weston. "I cannot thank them enough for all they have done for this command during my time here. It has been remarkable."

Prior to assuming command of the Galveston District, Sallese served as Chief, Programs Integration Division, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installation Management, Headquarters, U.S. Army, the Pentagon.

Sallese was born in Johnstown, Penn., on Nov. 21, 1964. In 1986, he graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Ceramic Science and Engineering, and received his commission through Army ROTC.

Following graduation, he was assigned to the 54th Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, Wildflecken, Germany, where he served as platoon leader, assistant S-3 and HHC Executive Officer. In November 1991, he was reassigned to the 23rd Engineer Battalion, 3rd Armored Division, Hanau, Germany, for deployment in support of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Provide Comfort.

In 1993, Sallese was assigned to the 326th Engineer Battalion (AA), 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky., where he served as Battalion S4, 187th Infantry Brigade Engineer, and Commander of Alpha Company. Following command, he was assigned to Seoul, Korea, as a protocol action officer in support of U.S. Forces Korea. In 1996, Sallese was assigned as a Project Manager with the



Col. Thomas W. Kula (right), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Southwestern Division commander, passes the flag of the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment to Col. Christopher W. Sallese, incoming Galveston District commander. The passing of the colors from the senior commander to the incoming commander signifies the passing of his trust and confidence in the incoming commander's ability to lead the organization, its soldiers and civilians. (USACE photo)

-MORE-

PAGE 2 - CHANGE OF COMMAND

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, managing the remediation of EPA Superfund sites. Following this assignment, he served as an active component advisor to reserve component engineer units in Missouri.

In 2001, Sallese graduated from the Army Command and General Staff College at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation. He also earned a Master of Science degree in Management from Troy State University. He was then assigned to the 36th Engineer Group (Construction), Fort Benning, Ga., where he served as the Group's Operation Officer during Operation Iraqi Freedom I. Following the deployment, Sallese also served as the Group's Deputy Commander and Chief, Design Management.

In 2004, Sallese was assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, as the Deputy District Commander. In 2006, he assumed command of the 92nd Engineer Battalion (C)(H), 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga., and deployed his battalion in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom V. Upon completion of command in 2008, he attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at Fort McNair, Washington D.C., and earned a Master's degree in Strategic Resources. Following graduation in 2008, Sallese served as Chief, Programs Integration Division, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installation Management, the Pentagon, until assuming command of the Galveston District.

Sallese's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (3), Meritorious Service Medal (7), Army Commendation Medal (2), Army Achievement Medal (4), National Defense Service Medal (2), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal (2), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Ribbon, Saudi Arabian Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kuwaiti Kuwait Liberation Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and Sapper Tab.

Weston will become the Deputy Commander for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Southwestern Division in Dallas.

ABOUT THE CHANGE OF COMMAND TRADITION - The change of command ceremony emphasizes the continuity of leadership and unit identity despite changes in individual authority. The ceremony also symbolizes the transfer of command responsibility from one individual to another. This transfer is physically represented by passing the command flag, the tangible symbol of the unit, from the old commander to the new. The next senior commander traditionally performs this transfer.