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CELMN-OD-R

SEP 12 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Lower Mississippi Valley Division,
ATTN: CELMV-ET-CE

SUBJECT: Annual Inspection of Completed Works Program

In accordance with ER 1150-2-301, ER 1130-2-339, and DIVR 1130-2-304, the following report (Eng Form 4390-R) is submitted herewith for maintenance performance by local interests for all features originally authorized under the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project and under Construction General. Included also are inspection reports for New Orleans District projects.

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KENNETH H. CLOW
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Commanding

- 2 Encls (trip)
- 1. Rept, Completed Eng Form 4390-R
- 2. Rept, MR&T Levees and Small Flood Control Projects

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EXEC OFC

1995 Annual Inspection for Maintenance of Completed MR&T Flood Control Works in the New Orleans District

1. The 1995 inspections of FCMR&T levees, floodwalls, and drainage structures operated and maintained by local interests were conducted during the period September 22 through November 17, 1995.
2. All inspections were conducted by the District Commander and/or his Deputy, appropriate members of Operations Division, Engineering Division, Construction Division, Programs and Project Management, Real Estate Division, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD), and Levee Board Commissioners and their staff.
3. Comments on the condition of levees, of maintenance performed by local interests during the year, and our ratings are as follows:

a. EAST JEFFERSON LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining 12 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River and 17.5 miles of hurricane protection levees and floodwalls along and adjacent to Lake Pontchartrain, within Jefferson Parish.

The river levee, hurricane protection levees, and floodwalls were inspected on September 22, 1995. The levees and floodwalls were exceptionally well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

b. ORLEANS LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining 125.9 miles of levees and floodwalls in Orleans Parish; 13.3 miles on the east bank of the Mississippi River and 13.9 miles on the west bank, and 98.7 miles along the shore of Lake Pontchartrain and canals connected thereto. The district also controls 22 miles of spillway area in lower Plaquemines Parish on the east bank of the Mississippi River from Bohemia Plantation to Ostrica; 8.3 miles of this reach is still protected by a levee.

The mainline river levees and floodwalls were inspected on September 28, 1995, and the hurricane protection levees were inspected in May 1995. Presently, the only ongoing river levee enlargement work is on the west bank in the vicinity of the Naval Reservation. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

c. RED RIVER, ATCHAFALAYA and BAYOU BOEUF LEVEE DISTRICT

The levee system within LMN consists of the Mansura Hills to Hamburg levee (20.3 miles), Bayou des Glaisses fuse plug levee (8.1 miles), Atchafalaya River levee - right descending bank

(43.0 miles), and a portion of the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee (34 miles).

The inspection was conducted on October 5, 1995. The levees were well maintained and the crowns were in excellent condition. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

d. FIFTH LOUISIANA LEVEE DISTRICT

The levee system within LMN consists only of the right descending Mississippi River levee (16.8 miles) between Black Hawk, LA, and the Old River lock. They are also responsible for 338 miles of levees in LMK.

The inspection was conducted on October 6, 1995. The levee was well maintained and the crown was in excellent condition. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

e. WEST JEFFERSON LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining 20.2 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River and 40 miles of back levees, which are being upgraded under the West Bank Hurricane Protection Project, in Jefferson Parish.

The mainline river levee was inspected on October 11, 1995. The hurricane protection levees will not be inspected until construction is completed. With the completion of the Gretna Phase 2B and Avondale levee enlargement projects, all work along the Mississippi River levee within the West Jefferson Levee District is 100 percent complete. The river levee and floodwall segments were in excellent condition. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

f. LAFOURCHE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining 61.7 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River between Donaldsonville, LA, and the Jefferson-St. Charles Parish line.

The levee was inspected on October 19, 1995, and was found to be in excellent condition. As a result of some minor problems that are occurring with the florolite that was used as a crown surfacing material in the completed Upper Edgard levee contract, the Corps' hired labor forces will be repairing a short reach of levee at no cost to the levee district. We previously agreed that we would assist the levee districts if problems arose with this experimental surfacing material. Currently, there are

two levee enlargement projects (Point Houmas and Oak Alley-Willow Grove) ongoing within the levee district. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

g. ATCHAFALAYA BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT

The levee system consists of the following reaches of river and floodway levees:

Levee along the south and west banks of lower Old River and the right descending Mississippi River levees from Barbre Landing in Pointe Coupee Parish to Bayou Lafourche at Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish (length is 119 miles, including 1.2 miles of spur dikes and the 3,906-foot length of the Morganza control structure) the upper Morganza floodway levee (length is 12.0 miles including 3.0 miles which are a part of the mainline levee at Morganza control structure); the lower Morganza floodway levee and the east Atchafalaya Basin protection levee extending from the west Mississippi River levee at Morganza, along the east side of the Atchafalaya Basin to a point approximately 6 miles south of Morgan City, in St. Mary Parish (length is 92.6 miles, of which 5.8 miles are maintained by the City of Morgan City and St. Mary Parish); the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee from Bayou Courtableau in St. Landry Parish along the west side of the Atchafalaya Basin to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway below Berwick, in St. Mary Parish (length is 92.6 miles, of which 4.9 miles below the lower Atchafalaya River are maintained by the Town of Berwick and St. Mary Parish); the left descending Atchafalaya River levee from Barbre Landing in Pointe Coupee Parish to a point about 1.5 miles above the head of Whiskey Bay Pilot Channel in St. Martin Parish (length is 51.1 miles); the right descending Atchafalaya River levee from Bayou Courtableau in St. Landry Parish to a point below Butte Larose settlement in St. Martin Parish (length is 18.0 miles); total length of levees in the district is 387.0 miles.

The levee inspection was conducted on October 24 and 25, 1995. The levees and floodwalls were well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

h. MORGAN CITY

The protection system north of the Southern Pacific Railroad is known as "Morgan City Front", consists of 213 feet of earthen levee, 1.3 miles of concrete floodwall, a pumping station and 1600 feet of storm drainage facilities; south of the

railroad is known as "Tiger Island", consists of 1.6 miles of levee 2,000 feet of concrete floodwall, a pumping station, and 2,500 feet of storm drainage facilities.

The inspection was conducted on October 25, 1995. There were no significant maintenance deficiencies noted. A SATISFACTORY rating is assigned.

i. TOWN OF BERWICK

The protection system consists of 1.6 miles of levee, 0.9 mile of concrete floodwall, and a gated drainage structure to provide protection for a 32-inch storm sewer passing through the floodwall.

The inspection was conducted on October 25, 1995. There were no significant maintenance deficiencies noted. However, during the inspection there was an area between the Berwick Lock and the beginning of the floodwall on the upper end of town where a portion of the levee had high grass and small trees growing on and adjacent to the levee. The levee slopes in this area are very steep and are difficult to maintain with standard tractor mowing equipment. This area is scheduled to be enlarged to design grade and section in the near future. However, we advised the Town of Berwick by letter that in the interim they should procure attachments to their mowers that would allow them to mow the levee from the levee crown or cut the area by hand. Regardless of which method they choose, they were advised that they must take corrective action. A SATISFACTORY rating is assigned.

j. ST. MARY PARISH

The protection system consists of 63 miles of levee, 11 drainage pumping stations, drainage structures, and numerous culverts.

The inspection was conducted on October 26, 1995. There were several levee contracts to be awarded in FY 95; however, these contracts may be delayed until FY 96 because of the new requirements to conduct Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) assessments for borrow pit sites. There were no significant maintenance deficiencies noted. A SATISFACTORY rating is assigned.

k. LAKE BORGNE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining 12 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River, 43 miles of



hurricane protection levee along and adjacent to the MRGO, 5 pumping stations, and 19 internal drainage canals in St. Bernard Parish.

The mainline river levee was inspected on November 3, 1995. The levee and sections of floodwall were well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

1. GRAND PRAIRIE LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is one of three under the direction of Plaquemines Parish Government and is responsible for maintaining 37.4 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River between the St. Bernard-Plaquemines Parish line and the Bohemia Spillway, and 33.4 miles of hurricane protection levee behind mainline river levee.

The levee was inspected on November 3, 1995. The levee was well maintained and in excellent condition. The hurricane protection levees will not be inspected until construction is completed. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

m. PONTCHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining 111 miles levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River from a point just below Baton Rouge to the Jefferson Parish line.

The levee was inspected on November 9, 1995. The levee, cattle guards, and fences were well maintained and no significant deficiencies were noted. The Point Claire-Carville contract was the only ongoing levee enlargement project in the district. This contract covers approximately 4 miles of levee and is scheduled to be completed in January 1996. There are two more levee enlargement projects scheduled to be awarded in FY 96. The Romeville-Remy levee contract is scheduled to be awarded in January 1996 and the Remy-Garyville levee contract is scheduled to be awarded in July 1996. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

n. METROPOLITAN COUNCIL OF BATON ROUGE

This Department of Public Works is responsible for maintaining only 2.1 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River at Baton Rouge.

The levee was inspected on November 9, 1995 and was observed to be in excellent condition. There was no ongoing levee enlargement work in the area, however, a soil nailing contract was awarded in September 1995 as an attempt to arrest

the bank movement occurring in the area upstream of the recent completed Phase I levee contract. The results will be monitor for several years before proceeding with further levee construction in this area. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

o. PLAQUEMINES PARISH WEST BANK LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is another of three levee districts under the direction of the Plaquemines Parish Government and is responsible for maintaining approximately 37.9 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River from the Orleans-Plaquemines Parish line to approximate river mile 44.0 AHP at Point Michel.

The inspection was conducted on November 17, 1995, and the levee was well maintained. There was no ongoing levee enlargement work within the district, however, there is a contract for 7.2 miles of levee enlargement work (second lift) scheduled to be awarded in FY 96 (January 1996). An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

p. BURAS LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is also under the direction of the Plaquemines Parish Government and is responsible for maintaining 34.1 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River from Point Michel to Venice, LA, and 34.4 miles of hurricane protection levees behind the river levee.

The river levee was inspected on November 17, 1995, and it was considered well maintained. The hurricane protection levees will not be inspected until construction is completed. OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

q. SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT

This district is responsible for maintaining the Laros to Golden Meadow Hurricane Protection Project which consists of 40 miles of hurricane protection levee, six pumping stations, two floodgates.

An informal inspection was conducted on November 28, 1995, at the request of the South Lafourche Levee District. Since the hurricane protection levees are still in the early stages of construction, a formal inspection will not be conducted until completed reaches of levee have been "turned over" to the levee district. However, in the interim we inspected several reaches of levee along the east side of the ring levee system

that were not under construction. The inspection extended from pump station no. 6 at Breton Canal to the Golden Meadow floodgates (sections D-North, D-South, and A-East). Although the levees were in the early stages of construction they were well maintained, and therefore, an OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

r. Town of Grand Isle

The beach and sand dune features of the Grand Isle and Vicinity Hurricane Protection project were inspected throughout the year, and deficiencies resulting from lack of maintenance at the Town of Grand Isle were noted. The Town of Grand Isle and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD), a co-sponsor of the project, have been advised by letters and meetings of our concern for the lack of maintenance and the need for corrective action. The Town of Grand Isle contends that the breakwaters are not functioning as designed and therefore, they should not have to bear the costs for maintenance at this time. The noted deficiencies existed prior to construction of the breakwaters.

We have reviewed the design of the project, including the breakwaters, and it is our contention that based on performance thus far, the design is adequate. The Town of Grand Isle and LA DOTD were advised again that the breakwaters will not stop erosion completely, and maintenance will be a continuous periodic requirement for years to come. We further advised them that we are extremely concerned about their ability to appropriate funds to correct maintenance deficiencies in the future, and therefore no additional Federal funding will be requested for maintenance or for emergency repairs until funding for maintenance of the project is assured by the local sponsors.

s. SMALL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS, NEW ORLEANS AREA

Inspection reports for the small flood control projects within the New Orleans Area are submitted each year; however, due to funding constraints and FTE cuts, this year's inspection will be postponed until next year. As a result of continuous budget cutbacks in our program, we are now planning to conduct aerial inspections every 2-years in lieu of every year. This decision is also based upon the fact that the conditions of the waterways have remained essentially the same for the last several years. In addition, the semi-annual inspection reports that the local interests are required to submit have indicated that the projects are in satisfactory condition with no reported problems.

Bayou L'Eau Bleu, which usually isn't included in the aerial inspection, is periodically inspected and sprayed as necessary by the Corps' Aquatic Growth unit. Natalbany River, Tickfaw River and the lower portion of Amite River are also periodically inspected by the Corps' Aquatic Growth unit and sprayed by the state. We will continue to monitor these waterways through the inspection reports furnished by our Aquatic Growth unit.

Bayou Vincent, in Slidell, Louisiana, was recently the focus of a resolution by the Town of Slidell and congressional inquiries for federal assistance to clear and snag and/or dredge the bayou. This followed the May 8th and 9th flood, which dropped more than 20 inches of rain in the Bayou Vincent area. We advised the Town and Congress that maintenance of this waterway is the responsibility of St. Tammany Parish. Inspections and recent semi-annual maintenance reports from the parish do not indicate any problems or complaints prior to the May flood.

