

19th Engineer Battalion  
Valorous Unit Award  
Presentation  
and  
Vietnam Memorial Dedication



Bridle and Reins!  
Stand Tall!

15 May 2010  
Brooks Field  
Fort Knox, KY



## **SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**

### **Prelude**

<b>Welcome</b>	<b>2LT Brown</b>
<b>*Invocation</b>	<b>CPT McDonald</b>
<b>*National Anthem</b>	<b>113th Army Band</b>
<b>Valorous Unit Award Presentation</b>	<b>MG Milano</b>
<b>Vietnam Memorial Dedication</b>	<b>LTC Roscoe</b>
<b>Memorial Unveiling</b>	<b>LTC Roscoe</b>
<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Mr. Knipp</b>
<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Mr. Hammack</b>
<b>Taps</b>	<b>113th Army Band</b>
<b>*Benediction</b>	<b>Mr. Hammack</b>

**There is a lunch and reception at the  
Leader's Club Candle Light Room  
after the ceremony.**

**Because of limited space,  
tickets have been provided  
to those who made a reservation**

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*\* Please Stand*



## **Major General James M. Milano**



Major General James M. Milano's most recent assignment was as the Director, Iraq Training and Advisory Mission which he assumed in July 2008 after eight months as the Deputy Commanding General (Support) for Multi-National Division -Baghdad and the 4th Infantry Division. Other general officer assignments include Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver) for the 4th Infantry Division and FORSCOM Senior Mission Commander at Fort Carson, CO; Director of

Training, HQDA G3, the Pentagon; and, Deputy Chief of Staff, C3 for US Army Central Command/Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) in Kuwait.

Major General Milano was born in Dearborn, Michigan. He graduated in 1979 from Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. He has served in leadership positions from platoon through brigade combat team. After extensive platoon leader time in the 2nd Armored Division, Major General Milano commanded Combat Support Company and then D Company in 2nd Battalion 72nd Armor, 2nd Infantry Division, and A Troop, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. He commanded the 4th Battalion 64th Armor in both the 24th and 3rd Infantry Divisions, and was also privileged to command the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Key staff assignments include Squadron Operations Officer in the 1st Squadron and Regimental Adjutant, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Battalion Executive Officer in 2nd Battalion 34th Armor and Brigade Executive Officer of the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division; Division G3 of the 1st Cavalry Division and Multi-National Division-North in SFOR 4 and 5, Bosnia-Herzegovina; and, Chief, G3 Force Integration for III Corps. Joint duty assignments include Chief, J-5 Strategy Division on the Joint Staff and Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Pentagon.



Major General Milano is a graduate of the Chemical Officer Basic Course, the Armor Officer Advance Course, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the School of Advance Military Studies, the U.S. Army War College and CAPSTONE. He earned a Master of Science degree in Administration from Central Michigan University and a Master of Military Art and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Major General Milano's spouse of 25 wonderful years is the former Kim Richmond, who is a Registered Dietitian and was born and raised in Erie, Pennsylvania.

The Milanos are extremely proud of their terrific sons, Nick, age 21, a senior at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, and Tony, age 18, a freshman at the University of Colorado in Boulder.





## Lieutenant Colonel Heath C. Roscoe



Lieutenant Colonel Heath C. Roscoe hails from the small town of Transfer located in Western Pennsylvania and is an avid Pittsburgh Steelers, Penguins and Pirates fan. He was commissioned in the United States Army Corps of Engineers on 31 May 1990 from the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. He is a registered Professional Engineer for the state of Delaware. Prior to his assignment as the

Commander - 19th Engineer Battalion, LTC Roscoe served at Fort Lewis, Washington where he was the Deputy Brigade Commander for the 555th "Triple Nickel" Engineer Brigade.

His previous assignments include overseas service in Baumholder Germany from January 1991 to April 1994 in the 40th Engineer Battalion "Battering Rams" where he served as a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Battalion Maintenance Officer. He also served overseas in the Republic of South Korea from December 1994 to February 1997 where he served as a company commander in Alpha Company, 2nd Engineer Battalion "Sapper Steel" at Camp Castle and the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division Assistant Brigade Engineer at Camp Casey – Tongdu'chon, Korea. After serving in Korea, LTC Roscoe went to graduate school at The Pennsylvania State University and then on to the United States Military Academy as an instructor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering from May 1997 to July 2002. After instructing at West Point, he went to Fort Lewis where he deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 3rd Brigade "Arrowhead", 2nd Infantry Division – Stryker Brigade Combat Team in 2003 as the Brigade Engineer in Mosul, Iraq and then with the 555th Engineer Brigade as the Brigade S3 in 2006 in Tikrit, Iraq under the 101st Airborne Division, Air-Assault. Between his two deployments, LTC Roscoe served as the Battalion S3 for the 14th Engineer Battalion "Rugged", Corps Wheeled at Fort Lewis. LTC Roscoe took command of the 19<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion "Seahorse" in February 2008 and deployed



with the unit in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from April 2009 to April 2010 conducting engineer missions in Regional Command South, Afghanistan.

LTC Roscoe earned a Bachelors of Science Degree in Environmental Science from the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York and a Masters of Science Degree in Environmental Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania. He is also a graduate of the Army Command and General staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, and the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced courses, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

LTC Roscoe's military awards and decorations include: the Combat Action, Airborne and Air-Assault Badges; the NATO, Korean Defense Service, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service medals, the Iraqi and Afghanistan Campaign Medals, the Army Achievement and Commendation Medals, Meritorious Service Medal and the Bronze Star Medal. His unit awards include the Army Superior Unit and Meritorious Unit Citation Awards. He has also been awarded the Bronze Order of the Engineer DeFleury Medal.

LTC Heath Roscoe is married to the former Ms. Jimin Lee of Seoul, Republic of South Korea.





## **19th Engineer Battalion Valorous Unit Award Presentation And Vietnam Memorial Dedication**

### **BINH DINH AND QUANG NGAI**

*During the period 16 July 1967 to 31 December 1968, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 19<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion including A Company, B Company, C Company, D Company, 70th Engineer Company, 73rd Engineer Company, and the 137th Engineer Company displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of military operations in Binh Dinh and Quang Ngai Provinces, Republic of Vietnam. Despite constant enemy harassment, in the form of mining roadways and stationing snipers along key transportation points, the unit worked tenaciously to upgrade and rebuild the roadway network from Bong Son to Duc Pho. In doing so, the unit transformed the vehicular pass to a Class 31 All-Weather Road, allowing the transport of critical supplies to the north during severely inclement weather, when previously, the monsoon season would ground aircraft and limit coastal shipping. Additionally, the battalion strove to render the finest support possible, thereby furthering the free world counterinsurgency objectives within the Republic of Vietnam. The unit's record of achievements serves as a testament to its Soldiers' outstanding courage, ingenuity, initiative and responsiveness. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 19<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit and the United States Army.*

### **In Memory of the Soldiers of the 19<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Army) Who Lost Their Lives in the Vietnam War 1965-1970**

PFC Elton Harrold Alexander  
PVT William Robert Asquith  
SGT Harry Adelbert Barber  
PFC Robert Lee Barker Jr.  
SP4 Isidro Sigfredo Bazan  
CPL Clarence Bowman Jr.  
1LT James Kenneth Brierly  
SP5 Robert Allen Brown  
PFC Marshall Eugene Callahan  
SP4 Steven Lynn Coffey  
PVT Samuel Earl Coker  
SP4 Charles Robert Cunningham  
PFC Booker T. Davie Jr.  
PVT George Nathan Davis

SSG Hugh Mozell Davis  
SP4 Samuel M. Davis  
SSG Berton Decker  
SP4 Edward Paul Deibel III  
SP5 Cecil F. Dixon  
PFC Eliezer Dominguez-Cortes  
1LT David Michael Drob  
SP4 William Gary Eggenberger  
CPL Ronald Lee Eidson  
SP4 Mark William Fenner  
PVT Elmer Eugene Fields  
SP4 Frederick Lee Fields  
SP4 Ronald Howard Gable  
CPL Robert Wayne Gibbins



|                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| PFC John Joseph Glynn Jr.      | SP4 Robert Gene Moore         |
| PFC Leonard Michael Gomolicke  | SP4 William Clarence Moore    |
| CPT Siegfried Louis Graebner   | SP4 Joseph Morgan Jr.         |
| SP4 Albert E. Graham Jr.       | PFC Bruce Anderson Murray     |
| SP4 Michael John Grecu         | SP4 Robert Dean Neasham       |
| SP5 Jerry Eugene Guerra        | SP4 Gary Arnold Neavor        |
| PFC David Allen Hargens        | PVT Archie Lee Nelson Jr.     |
| SP5 Clarence Eugene Harper Jr. | 1LT David Allen Paddock       |
| PFC Paul Dearing Haydon        | SP4 Michael Gene Phillips     |
| SP4 Joseph Emerson Heath       | SP5 Charles David Riffe       |
| SP4 Harvey Rickert Howard      | PFC Israel Rodriguez          |
| PFC Charles Wayne Hughes       | SP4 James Wesley Rowlett      |
| SP4 James Idlett               | PSG George Washington Schook  |
| SFC Salvatore Iozzia           | SP4 Alton Browning Sebastian  |
| SP4 Samuel Julius Izzard       | SP5 Roger Dale Shafer         |
| PFC Felix Jacques              | PVT Ronald Eugene Sheppard    |
| SP5 Charles Anthony Jamack     | SP4 William Lawrence Shrum    |
| SP4 Larry Dean Johnson         | SP4 Joseph Edward Shubiak     |
| SP4 Milton Joseph Jones        | SP4 Jerry Lee Shultz          |
| SP5 Jimmie Eugene Keith        | SGT Douglas Soward            |
| SP4 David Bruce Kelley         | PFC John Leslie Stabler       |
| SP4 John C. Kennebrew          | PFC Frankie Stanley           |
| PFC Gerald Dennis Kiesling     | CPL John Charles Sterling     |
| SGT Phillip Henry Kilver       | PFC Wayland Kent Thompson     |
| PFC Myron Dale Kjellerson      | SFC Roger Lee Troxell         |
| PFC Gary Ray Large             | SSG Valentine Tucker          |
| PFC David James Levier         | SP4 Nicholas Randle Tunny     |
| SP4 John David Lindberg        | SP4 Stanley Turner            |
| SP4 Gary Vaughn Lovellette     | PFC Marc Gregory Van Dalsem   |
| PVT Carl Frederick Lybrand     | CPL John Charles Wells        |
| SP4 Frank Elliot Lyon          | SGT Robert Jay Westrate       |
| SP4 Kenneth Carroll Major Jr.  | SP4 John Dennis Whorff        |
| SP5 Ross Edward Mandeville     | SGT Gary Robert Willeke       |
| CPL Timothy George Mattson     | 1LT Jeremy Robert Wojtkiewicz |
| PFC Clarence McCraney          | SP4 Larry Michael Wolpert     |
| PFC Michael Paul McLaughlin    | SP4 James Lewis Wood          |
| PFC John Joseph McNabb         | SP5 Howard Edgar Yost Jr.     |
| CPL Jerry Bruce Menane         | SP4 Douglas Lee Zeller        |
| SP4 Robert Earl Miller         |                               |



## **LEGEND OF THE BRIDLE AND REINS**

It seems that on 22 January 1944, LTC Larson, the Battalion Commander of the 3rd Battalion, 36th Regiment, from which the 19th Engineer Battalion is descended, was in a landing craft headed for the port of Anzio. It was pre-dawn on that fateful day and LTC Larson's instructions were to land with a Ranger Task Force and clear the Port of Anzio, so that the rest of the Regiment with equipment could land there. Although unprepared for the invasion, the Germans did manage to get a few rounds of Artillery off at the approaching small landing craft. One round was so close that it threw LTC Larson's boat into the air and dumped LTC Larson into the sea. Weighted down by all of his equipment, LTC Larson immediately started to go under.

In his semi-conscious state, LTC Larson reached out and grabbed at what he thought was a piece of rope as a drowning man clutches at a straw. Still in a semi-conscious state, he swears that what he thought was a rope was actually the reins of a bridle worn by, of all things, a Seahorse.

When LTC Larson recovered consciousness he was lying on the dock with an aid man kneeling beside him. He started to tell the aid man of the experience when he stopped himself. He figured the story was too unbelievable. As he started to get up, he looked in his hand and he still had the reins with the bit. Forgetting about it temporarily he got up, placed the reins and bit in his pack and took command of the Battalion again. So thoroughly did his Battalion clear the port that the rest of the Regiment was able to land at the port rather than assault the beach as anticipated.

During a rest period, he mentioned the incident to the Regimental Commander who passed it off as a good story but hardly true. The Regimental Commander concluded that LTC Larson picked the bit and reins at the dock where one the many horses around the port may have lost them in the confusion of battle. However, as LTC Larson retold the story to some Italian workers, they said they had never seen such a bit before and that certainly none of the horses around Anzio ever had one like it, and also there were no teeth marks on the bit, as the horses frequently took the bit in their teeth as they went along. Still being unable to fully resolve the story himself, LTC Larson gave the bit and reins to one of the workers around the dock.

The story, however did not die and was told and retold so much that the story was still around at the end of the war when the 2828th Engineer Battalion, formerly the 3d Battalion, was renamed the 19th Engineer Battalion.

When the 19th was activated in 1952 the legend was still around, but by this time it was just a vague memory. It remained this way until August of 1961. At this time LTC Regn assigned the Battalion Executive Officer the task of finding more information out about the legend or contacting someone who had served with the old 36th or knew of its exploits. One of the letters he wrote went to the Mayor of Anzio. The Mayor sent us the name of Antonio Batelli, the worker who claimed to be the one to whom LTC Larson gave the bit and reins. Further correspondence with Mr. Batelli revealed that he had kept the bit and reins as a souvenir and had never used it since it was different than any he had used. During September 1961 the bit and reins were returned to the Seahorse Battalion, and kept as a symbol of the command.



## **19th Engineer Battalion History**

The 19th Engineer Battalion has a long and distinguished lineage. The parent unit of the 19th Engineer Battalion was constituted 1 October 1933 in the Regular Army as the 36th Engineer Regiment. The 19th Engineer Battalion originated as the 3rd Battalion of the 36th Engineer Combat Regiment. The regiment was activated at Plattsburg Barracks, New York in June 1941.

During World War II, The battalion conducted five amphibious landings while accompanying the victorious allied armies through Africa, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. The battalion had suffered 902 combat casualties including 144 killed in action. For their gallantry and service, the battalion was awarded 10 campaign streamers from World War II, and soldiers from the battalion were awarded 7 Silver Stars and 13 bronze Stars.

In 1965, the Battalion deployed to Vietnam in an amphibious landing on the beaches of Qui Nhon. The Battalion's primary mission was to upgrade highway QL-1 from virtually a dirt trail to an all weather road from Qui Nhon to Bong Son. From March 1965 thru June 1971 the 19th Engineer Battalion served with distinction and was awarded 13 campaign streamers for action in Vietnam and received the valorous unit award for its actions. 108 Soldiers gave their lives in Vietnam and over 1,000 were wounded in action.

The 19th Engineer Battalion participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm where it was awarded three campaign streamers. Five Soldiers gave their lives in support of these missions. The 19th Engineer Battalion was inactivated 15 September 1997 at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The 19th Engineer Battalion was again activated 16 October 2005 at Fort Knox, Kentucky as the first modular Engineer Battalion, capable of commanding any type of Engineer organization from sappers to construction to topographic units. Along with the organic Headquarters Support Company and Forward Support Company, the 15th Engineer Company (Horizontal), the 60th and 76th Engineer Companies (Vertical), and the 72nd Survey and Design Detachment were activated and assigned to the 19th Engineer Battalion.

The 19th Engineer Battalion then mobilized to Iraq and served from August 06 thru November 07 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Battalion provided assured mobility and general engineering support for the 25th Infantry Division and MND-N. The 19<sup>th</sup> accomplished four key tasks in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom: Road repairing, route sanitation, training Iraqi Army Engineers, and constructing protective structures. One Soldier gave his life in Iraq. The battalion was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

The modularity of the 19<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion enabled the 76<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company to deploy to Afghanistan to support the winterization and FOB expansions of Bagram Airfield and FOB Salerno from December 2006 to March 2008.

In April 2009, the 19th Engineer Battalion then deployed to Regional Command, South, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Battalion's mission was to provide general Engineering, along with construction management to expand Regional Command South. The battalion was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.





## **CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT**

### **World War II**

Algeria-French Morocco (w/ arrowhead)

Tunisia

Sicily (w/ arrowhead)

Naples-Foggia (w/ arrowhead)

Anzio (w/ arrowhead)

Rome-Arno

Southern France (w/ arrowhead)

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

### **Southwest Asia**

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Cease-Fire

### **Vietnam**

Defense

Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase II

Counteroffensive, Phase III

Tet Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase IV

Counteroffensive, Phase V

Counteroffensive, Phase VI

Tet 69/Counteroffensive

Summer-Fall 1969

Winter-Spring 1970

Sanctuary Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase VII

### **GWOT**

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Operation Enduring Freedom

### **19th Engineer Battalion Decorations**

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army) for

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Operation Enduring Freedom

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class  
for Vietnam 1970

Valorous Unit Award for Vietnam



## **ENGINEER SONG**

**Pin the castle on my collar,  
I've done my training for the team.**

**You can call me an engineer soldier,  
The warrior spirit has been my dream.**

**Essayons,  
Whether in war or peace  
We will bear our red and our white**

**Essayons,  
We serve America  
And the U.S. Army Corps of engineers  
Essayons! Essayons!**

## **ARMY SONG**

**First to fight for the right,  
And to build the Nation's might,  
And The Army Goes Rolling Along**

**Proud of all we have done,  
Fighting till the battle's won,  
And the Army Goes Rolling Along.**

**Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey!  
The Army's on its way.  
Count off the cadence loud and strong**

**For where e'er we go,  
You will always know  
That The Army Goes Rolling Along.**