



# THE PIANC NEWSLETTER

Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses

Summer 1996

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## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

□ After 42 years of service working in the office of the International Secretariat in Brussels, **Ms. Claire DeCraen**, Administrative Officer, will retire at the beginning of July 1996. Many members of the U.S. Section know Ms. DeCraen and appreciate the tireless manner in which she manages the day-to-day activities of the PIANC office as well as details of committees, commissions, and working groups--carrying it all out in French and in English. To put her years of service into a Corps of Engineers framework, Ms DeCraen's employment coincides with the tours of duty of LTG Samuel D. Sturgis, Jr., through LTG Arthur E. Williams as Chiefs of Engineers and MG Emerson Itschner through MG Stanley G. Genega as Directors of Civil Works.

Ms. DeCraen was recognized by her associates at the recent meeting of the Permanent International Council in Durban, South Africa. Among the honors which Ms. DeCraen received on that occasion was the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, presented by the **Honorable H. Martin Lancaster**, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) and President of the U.S. Section. MG Stanley G. Genega presented Ms. DeCraen a notebook containing letters from many of her friends in the U.S. and a wooden plaque embellished with a Corps of Engineers castle.

□ The U.S. Section recently established a home page on the World Wide Web. The home page is the result of work done by **Mrs. Mary Jane Robertson**, U.S. Section Administrative Officer, and **Mr. Michael Walsh**, Civil Engineer with the Institute for Water Resources. At this time, the home page has background information about PIANC, a list of working group reports and an announcement about the annual meeting scheduled for 9-11 October 1996 in Seattle. From time to time, we intend to add information, such as brief summaries of working group reports.

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If you have any suggestions about how to make the home page more useful, please send us your ideas. The home page address for the U.S. Section is:

<http://www.wrc-ndc.usace.army.mil/pianc/index.htm>

The Dutch National Section also has an Internet address:

<http://www.minvenw.nl/projects/ndw/home.html>

□ **Mr. Charles F. Lehman**, Vice President, American Commercial Barge Line (ACBL) Company, has been appointed to a second term as a U.S. National Commissioner. As Vice President of Public Affairs for the ACBL, Mr. Lehman represents the corporation at government agencies as well as with Members of Congress and legislative staffs. He has been a member of the Inland Waterways User Board, the Navigation Safety Advisory Council and a Vice President of the National Waterways Conference, Inc. Among his awards are the Distinguished and Meritorious Public Service Awards given by the U.S. Coast Guard. The U. S. Section is fortunate that Mr. Lehman will continue his service to the Association.

□ Several U.S. Representatives were recently appointed to international working groups. They are:

**Dr. Marcia H. Bystryn**, Chief Environmental Officer, Office of Corporate Policy and Planning, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Dr. Bystryn is the U. S. Representative to the Permanent Environmental Commission Working Group Number 4, Environmental Management Framework for Ports.

**Dr. Billy L. Edge**, Bauer Professor of Dredging Engineering and Head Ocean Engineering Program, Texas A&M University. Dr. Edge is the U. S. Representative to the Permanent Technical

Committee II, Working Group Number 36, Catalog of Precast Elements.

**Mr. Jack C. Cox**, Civil Engineer Manager, the Michael Baker Corporation. Mr. Cox is the U.S. Representative to the Special Commission for Sport and Recreation Navigation, Working Group Number 9, Regeneration of Harbour Areas for Sport and Pleasure Navigation Use.

**Mr. David V. Grier**, Transportation Geographer, U.S. Army Engineer Institute for Water Resources. Mr. Grier is the U.S. Representative to the Permanent Technical Committee I, Working Group Number 21, Economic Studies of Inland Waterways.

□ The U.S. Section has received a letter of thanks from **Professor B. Mazurkiewicz** acknowledging the donation made in support of **Professor Yuri Vorobyov** from the Transport Academy of Ukraine in Odessa, to defray his expenses for travel and accommodations in connection with the conference on **Inland and Maritime Navigation and Coastal Problems of East European Countries and Environmental Aspects of Dredging**. The conference, which will be held in Gdansk, Poland, in September 1996, is sponsored by the Permanent Committee for Development and Cooperation. The contribution is made from the not-appropriated fund of the U.S. Section.

□ The International Secretariat has announced that the **1998 PIANC Congress**, which is being organized by the Dutch National Section, will be held from **August 31 to September 4, 1998**, in **The Hague**. Additional information will be forwarded to members in the near future.

□ **Delegates from 19 member nations attended the Permanent International**

**Commission (PIC) meeting** which was held the third week of May in Durban, South Africa. PORTNET, the port authority that owns and operates the public ports in South Africa, was the hosting organization for the meeting.

Technical presentations focused on development and redevelopment of port and coastal areas. Papers were presented on the Port of Durban, South Africa's container handling requirements for the 21st century, extension to the general cargo quay at the Port of Saldanha, the redevelopment of the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront at Cape Town, which includes both a working, commercial waterfront and a festival marketplace, and information on the master plan of the port facilities at Richards Bay. Any member who would like to obtain a copy of one or more of the papers may do so by contacting Mrs. Robertson in the Office of the U.S. Section, PIANC, telephone (703) 428-6286. Other articles on South Africa are published in Bulletin Number 90, March 1996.

Following are several items of business taken up at the meeting of the Permanent International Commission

- **Mr. Harry N. Cook**, President of the National Waterways Conference, Inc., was appointed an International Honorary Member of PIANC (see p.7). Congratulations, Harry!

- **Mr. John H. Sargent**, Chief Delegate of the United Kingdom, completed his term as an International Vice President and was awarded the title of Honorary Vice President. Mr. Sargent has been a member of PIANC for 30 years. Among his many contributions to the association are the design of the new logo, the Strategic Plan and several proposals to restructure the format of Congresses.

- **Ministerialrat Dipl.-Ing. Norbert Krause**, the Chief Delegate from Germany, was installed as an International Vice President to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Mr. Sargent.

- The **Membership Chairman** reported that the total membership stands at 2,560, an increase of 300 new members, and member nations total 42. The Italian and U.S. Sections were congratulated by the President for recruiting new members.

- Discussion of financial matters included a resolve that the next Congress be organized to make a profit. The rising expense of printing and distributing working group reports generated discussion concerning a limit on the number of working groups approved annually, reserving the funds for printing and distribution at the time a working group is established, and limiting distribution to those who have a specific interest in the subject. Members said that considering the speed with which technology moves, delays in publishing working group reports, due to financial restrictions, reduce the value of the technical report.

- On the subject of **PIANC Publications**, it was reported that an average of 600 pages is printed annually using 5 tons of paper. We will try to reduce the amount of paper being used through a combination of print publication and electronic production. We are also considering publishing the 1998 Congress on disks in addition to making the papers available on the Internet.

- **President De Paepe** announced that consideration was being given to adopting a new, shorter name for the Association that would be more compatible for use on the Internet. Relevant to that, Mr. John Sargent, suggested that the **Statutes** be reviewed and

revised to include adjustments brought about by the adoption of the **Strategic Plan**. He added that the question of a name change should properly be included in the revision of the regulations. The Secretary General reported that he hoped, after strengthening some of the French terminology in the document, to publish the **Strategic Plan** in Bulletin Number 92. Further discussion indicated that there are more options than priorities in the plan. Moreover, the organization would require some adjustments to bring it into conformity with the **Strategic Plan**.

- On the subject of papers for the 1998 Congress, **Dr. Anatoly Hochstein** expressed his concern that some subjects were too narrow and others too broad, resulting in difficulties for authors. He suggested that better descriptions of the scope of subjects were needed. President De Paepe asked for written proposals that clarify subjects be sent to the Presidents of Permanent Technical Committees I and II before the end of June 1996.

- **Mr. Ordman** from the United Kingdom commented on the importance of continuing the good relationship established between PIANC and the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** through the work of Mr. Paul Lacey (U.K. Section) and others. He urged delegates to offer assistance by attending IMO meetings and supporting Mr. Lacey's **IMO** work. Decisions of the IMO often result in conventions that eventually become international law.

- The new Chairman of the **Permanent Committee for Development and Cooperation (PCDC)** is **Professor Hugo Velsink** from The Netherlands, who is replacing **Mr. Robert J. A. Simeon** of Belgium. The new Vice Chairman is **Mr. S. Ghosh**, member of the India Section.

**If you would like additional information about the work of the Association, please contact the Office of the U. S. Section, PIANC at (703) 428-6286.**



From left to right: Richard Dornhelm, Moffat and Nichol Engineers, Conference Organizer; the Honorable H. Martin Lancaster, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) and Chairman, U.S. Section, PIANC; RADM Rudy K. Peschel, U.S. Coast Guard, luncheon speaker; and MG Stanley G. Genega, Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and President, U.S. Section, PIANC.

## **WORKSHOP ON VESSEL TRAFFIC CONFLICTS ON WATERWAYS**

Vessel traffic conflicts are a growing concern to waterway users and the government agencies responsible for waterway management and safety.

In some cases, the conflicts create immediate safety concerns. In others, they impact the quality of the boating experience or the waterway carrying capacity, limiting



RADM Rudy Peschel explains use of new personal life vest, being demonstrated by Capt. Paul Dinkle, U.S. Army Engineer Liaison Officer with the U.S. Coast Guard.

recreational opportunities. The majority of these conflicts occur on inland lakes and rivers, often between recreational users.

A May 10, 1996, workshop held in Washington, D.C., brought together waterway user groups with government agencies. The theme of the workshop was **Vessel Traffic Conflicts on Waterways Used by Recreational Boaters**. In a combined panel, participants discussed the traffic congestion on waterways used by recreational boaters and the approaches being considered to solve this problem, including:

- Vessel traffic control for larger commercial vessels.
- Limiting the number of recreational boats with use permits.
- Restricting recreational boating activities.

Presentations included user, federal and state and local concerns and programs as well as boat traffic analyses and specific case studies. Some of the ideas proposed were:

- Formal basic boating training.
- Videos showing dangers of waterways/signs/alcohol.
- Focus on navigational aids and increased education.

Workshop participants also recognized the need for funding for effective enforcement of existing boating rules and regulations and partnering programs between government and responsible boating industry organizations to enhance safety.



Ms. Marge Hegy is making a presentation during the final panel of the workshop. Seated at the speaker's table, from left to right, are Mr. Richard Otto, Mr. Ron Stone, Ms. Margot Brown, Mr. Howard Park, and Cmdr. John Davin.

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## THE LONDON CONVENTION

In the early 1970s, large portions of near-coastal marine waters were becoming severely degraded. This was partly due to unregulated dumping of waste materials.

The United States proposed a convention to regulate ocean disposal to the United Nations. Subsequently, a global treaty was drawn up to develop and agree on minimum controls for ocean disposal and establish a basic regulatory regime in 1975.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) participated in the first and all subsequent Convention meetings, playing a significant role in drafting the guidelines for dredged material management in ocean waters.

Under the direction of Mr. William Murden, then Chief of the USACE Dredging Division, PIANC became an active observer to the Convention in the mid-80s. Observers, while having no formal vote, can enter the debates and submit technical articles describing positions of their constituents on related issues. PIANC has been very influential with Convention agreements impacting on navigation and port interests.

The U.S. is signatory to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by the Dumping of Waste and Other Matters--London Convention-1972. The London Convention meets two to three times a year and agrees on criteria, standards, prohibitions, allowances and management protocols that form the minimum requirements for U.S. domestic regulations for the disposal of dredged material and other allowed materials into marine waters.

There are 72 nations signatory to the London Convention. Decisions reached at meetings

are considered binding by the member nations. In the U.S., decisions are implemented through the Marine Protections Research and Sanctuaries Act (Ocean Dumping Act). The next meeting of the London Convention is a special Diplomatic Conference scheduled for 28 October to 8 November in London.

The Diplomatic Conference is the culmination of five years of preparation, debate, and consultation by the member nations to revise the current London Convention. The revisions will make guidelines on ocean disposal and polluting activities more stringent.

The new London Convention will incorporate many new principles of environmental protection and waste management. It will also ban ocean disposal of all wastes and other materials with a few exceptions, such as dredged material, offshore platforms, natural organic materials, and inert material of natural origin-- the Reverse List. Thus, the agreements reached at the Diplomatic Convention this fall will have far reaching effects on the future of waste management in ocean waters.

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## NEWS OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The **Shallow Draft Waterways and Ports Standing Committee** held its organizational meeting in St. Louis on March 18, 1996. Members agreed to hold two committee meetings a year--one during the annual Industry Day meeting held in the spring and one during the annual National waterway's Conference held in the fall.

Some of the committee's activities will include recommending subjects of interest for papers and workshops; reviewing periodicals for new trends; assisting members in drafting

papers on issues of interest to PIANC; and acting as liaison with other groups sharing mutual interests.

Point of contact: Charles F. Lehman, Vice President, American Commercial Barge Line Company.

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## **COOK ELECTED PIC HONORARY MEMBER**

Harry N. Cook of Washington, D.C., President of the National Waterways Conference, was recently elected an Honorary Member of the Permanent International Commission (PIC). The PIC is the governing body of PIANC.

Nominated by MG Stanley G. Genega, Director of Civil Works for the Army Corps of Engineers and President of the U.S. Section, PIANC, Mr. Cook was elected at the PIC annual meeting held in Durban, South Africa. Mr. Cook was a member of the U.S. delegation, which was led by The Honorable H. Martin Lancaster, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works).

Starting in 1978, Mr. Cook served two four-year terms as a U.S. Commissioner of PIANC, and he is now a Commissioner Emeritus of the U.S. Section. As an Honorary Member of PIC, he will be invited to participate in future PIC meetings, which are held in various port and waterway cities, in the U.S. and abroad.

Accepting the honor, Mr. Cook praised the "international perspective" of PIANC. "The challenges facing navigation programs in one country are frequently similar to those arising in other countries," he said, "but these challenges are often addressed quite differently."

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## **FULL STEAM AHEAD ON PORTS '98**

The U.S. Section, PIANC and the American Society of Civil Engineers' Ports and Harbors Committee of the Waterway, Port, Coastal and Ocean Division are co-sponsoring Ports '98.

This specialty conference, titled "Port Development as Transportation Centers," will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, California, from March 22-25, 1998. It will cover a broad spectrum of timely and pertinent technical topics pertaining to port and harbor facilities and the increasing challenges of transportation access to ports.

Selected topics of discussion will include:

- Operation and design of container terminals
- Intermodal rail transfer facilities
- Breakbulk and bulk handling facilities
- Petroleum terminals
- Highways, railroads, bridges and grade separations
- Military facilities
- Commercial waterfront facilities
- Recreational facilities
- Small craft harbors
- Maintenance and repair of port facilities
- Geotechnical and dredging issues
- Environmental issues
- Terminal equipment design.

This specialty conference will be accomplished under the auspices of the Ports and Harbors Committee of the Waterway, Port, Coastal and Ocean Division. The Port of Los Angeles, the Port of Long Beach, the consulting firm of Moffatt & Nichol Engineers, the Los Angeles Section of ASCE, and others in the port engineering community have offered substantial support in organizing the conference.

Conference proceedings (papers) will be published in two volumes by ASCE and will include both ASCE and PIANC papers in the same volumes. Space for booth-type exhibits will be available.

This will be the eighth in a series of specialty conferences on port design organized every three years since 1977 by the Ports and Harbors Committee. The U.S. Section, PIANC has been a co-sponsor since 1992.

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### **1996 WILLEMS AWARDEE ANNOUNCED**

The U.S. Section, PIANC Gustave Willems awardee for 1996 is David B. Swanson. Mr. Swanson will be honored at the Seattle, Washington, Annual Conference of PIANC.



Mr. Swanson's paper was titled "Observations from the Kobe Earthquake and Lessons Learned for Reducing the Seismic Vulnerability of U.S. Ports." As a member of a reconnaissance team of engineers, the author researched the Kobe earthquake damage and its implications for U.S. ports.

While providing an overview of the Kobe earthquake, Mr. Swanson focused on the importance of ports and how U.S. ports, in

particular, can better prepare their facilities to withstand the devastating effects of earthquakes. He also discussed the general methods for reducing the seismic vulnerability of the U.S. and international port-related lifeline structures.

Runners-up were: Shanon A. Chader, Buffalo District, paper titled "Rochester Wave Surge Reduction Project," and Leslie Lew, Sacramento District, paper titled "Prospect Island Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration."

Look for all three papers in the PIANC International Bulletin in the near future. Congratulations to all the winners!

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### **FORMER WILLEMS AWARDEE TAKES TOP PRIZE**

Robert Davinroy, the 1990 Gustave Willems Award winner, was recently awarded again. Mr. Davinroy received the 1996 Innovation Award presented by the Academy of St. Louis, an award given annually to scientists under the age of 40 for superior accomplishment.

Mr. Davinroy was honored for his work in developing the bendway weir, a submerged rock structure that widens the navigation channel through river bends. The bendway weir makes navigation safer and improves the riverine ecosystem. Mr. Davinroy also created a new river engineering concept called micro-modeling, an inexpensive method for finding answers to complex hydraulic problems.

The Innovation Award was presented to Mr. Davinroy last March at a dinner held by the Academy of Science of St. Louis at the Missouri Botanical Garden.