



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Alaska District

Biography

Date

October 1991

Colonel John W. Pierce
Commander and District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District

Colonel John W. Pierce became Commander and District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, on July 12, 1991. His organization is responsible for all Army and Air Force military construction in Alaska, performs planning and construction management for Corps civil works projects in the state, and administers two laws prescribing regulation of wetlands and navigation.

He is a graduate of Georgia State University with a bachelors degree in Geology and holds a masters degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Mexico. Col. Pierce began his Army service as a draftee in 1965. He attended the Engineer Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in October 1966.

Before his assignment to head the Alaska District Col. Pierce served as Director, Directorate of Training and Doctrine in the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Topographic Engineer Officer Course, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Air War College (U.S. Air Force).

Col. Pierce's other assignments include: service in Vietnam as a platoon leader and company executive officer in the 34th Engineer Battalion, commander of the 586th Engineer Company (FB), operations officer (S-3) of the 818th Engineer Battalion, executive officer of the 43rd Engineer Battalion, project engineer at the Fort Worth (Texas) District of the Corps of Engineers, research and development coordinator at the Corps' Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi, operations officer (S-3) of the 36th Engineer Group and Commander of the 237th Engineer Battalion.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster and Vietnam Service Medal. Col. Pierce was recently inducted in the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame.

Col. Pierce's family includes his wife, Carol, and two children; John. Jr. (age 20) and Ashley (age 18). The family resides on Fort Richardson, near Anchorage.

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