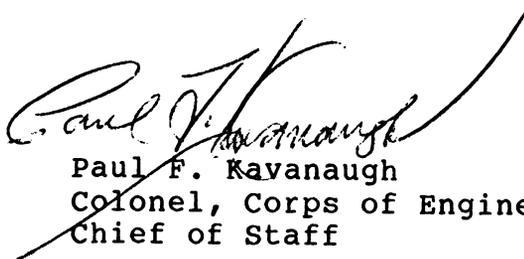


FOREWORD

Few retired officers or civilians of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ever set down a summary of their careers with the intention of sharing their acquired knowledge with others. As a result, our organization and the engineering profession have lost valuable information and an important perspective for present and future decision-making. This volume in the Engineer Memoirs Series attempts to correct the situation by preserving material of historical significance that is not available elsewhere.

Lieutenant General Walter K. Wilson, Jr., had a distinguished career in the Corps of Engineers which culminated with his selection as Chief of Engineers in 1961. I recommend this interview to thoughtful officers and civilian members of the Engineer family.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



Paul F. Kavanaugh
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Chief of Staff

THE INTERVIEWER

Dr. Paul Walker, a historian in the Historical Division, Office of the Chief of Engineers, heads the OCE Oral History Program. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and is the author of Engineers of Independence: A Documentary History of the Army Engineers in the American Revolution: 1775-1783.