



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New Orleans District

News Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Corps will test allegedly leaking floodwall

What. Simulation on the Mississippi River floodwall by the Orleans Levee District, Port of New Orleans and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to demonstrate whether the floodwall leaks during heavy rains.

When. 10 to 11 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2001.

Where. Mandeville Street Wharf. Enter through the floodgate at Esplanade Avenue and North Peters Street and go left on the wharf's rear apron.

Background. At a New Orleans City Council meeting on Aug. 2, 2001, Faubourg Marigny citizens alleged that the floodwall leaks profusely during heavy rains, causing landside erosion of green space, localized street flooding, and street damage. They expressed doubt that the floodwall has the ability to hold back and drain rainwater as it is designed to do. The Corps and the other agencies disagree.

Simulation. To simulate heavy rain, a fire hose will spray water against the floodwall's riverside until it ponds, held against the wall by sandbags. Then, red dye will be added. Either the dye will trace flow through the floodwall, as alleged. Or, the dye will trace it, going where it is designed to go, into the underground drains, beneath the floodwall and into the city storm sewers.

Time is limited. New Orleans Public Belt Railroad will suspend traffic to permit the demonstration. We have one hour and no more.

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