



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

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**Col. Degidio takes command
of the Far East District**

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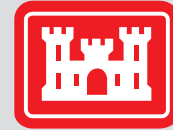
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On the cover



Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (left), Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, passes the Engineer Colors to Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. Far East District incoming Commander, during a ceremony July 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Commander's Corner

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

To the great Team of the Far East District and the entire Team of Teams,

What a great time to be serving in the Republic of Korea with the Far East District – a humble thank you – kamsahamnida – for allowing me this wonderful opportunity to join your great ranks. You are regarded as one of the most professional and well respected Engineer Districts in the world executing one of the largest, most dynamic, and most challenging programs in the world.

Having worked with many of you in the Far East District during previous assignments here in Korea, I know I am joining an organization that recognizes the importance of teamwork and appreciates being an essential part of our Pacific Ocean Division, U.S. Army, Joint Component, and Bi-lateral Component Teams.

In this my first issue of *The East Gate Edition*, I would like to share with you a few initial thoughts.

The District is a team of dedicated professionals who take pride in being the engineering and construction agent serving our customers on the Korean Peninsula. With sustainability as a guiding principle, our disciplined team will work diligently providing military facilities where our Service Members train, work, and our Families live. Our pledge to the United States, the Republic of Korea, and our customers is to continue to be worthy of one's trust and selection. To our colleagues, our pledge is to provide support wherever and whenever, from the DMZ to the port of Busan.

To our employees, we strive to provide a positive and productive place to work and live here in the Land of the Morning Calm. An organization that is professionally trained, proficient in practice, and skilled in word and deed. You are what makes "Building Strong in Korea" possible. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to serve you as your Commander and District Engineer. I look forward in the coming weeks meeting and working with each and every one of you and saying "Hi." I am all about people and relationships, which is a cornerstone in our U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

To our Customers, the Far East District is here to serve you and remain ready and relevant in a changing environment. If you can conceive it and believe it, the Far East District can achieve it. We are at a monumental point in the history of the United States and the Republic of Korea. We want to be a part of that history. The Far East District wants to serve you during that change – building upon great relationships – and be a District that is Trustworthy, Transparent, and Timely. That is our promise to you.

To our wonderful Korean partners, I can assure you we will continue to be first-class stewards of scope, schedule, and cost. I look forward partnering with you to become great stewards of our environment for a greener Korea as we build facilities that are eco-friendly, better for our environment, and designed using resources that are proven as best practices. We owe that to our future and to the people living and working in the Republic of Korea.

We truly go together – Katchi Kapsida!

Building Strong in Korea!
Col. Don Degidio



Col. Degidio takes command of the Far East District

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District from Col. Blair A. Schantz during a Change of Command Ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8.

Degidio is now the 32nd FED Commander and takes responsibility of a diverse workforce of nearly 500 employees. He will also command the U.S. design and construction agent for U.S. Forces Korea, serving all branches of the armed forces.

“It is truly an honor to assume the Engineer Colors and serve you,” said Degidio. “The Far East District is here to serve and remain ready and relevant in a changing environment. If you can conceive it and believe it, the Far East

District can achieve it.”

Previous to his assignment to FED, Degidio served as Deputy Garrison Commander for Transformation (Korea Region), Installation Management Command since 2010.

Degidio is from Providence, R. I. and received his commission as an engineer from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, in 1987. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Military and International Studies from the U.S. Marine Corps Command and General Staff College and a Masters in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, Commander, USACE Pacific Ocean Division, hosted the ceremony during what was his first visit to Korea as he too had just recently



Emergency Essential and Mission Essential personnel stand in formation beside their military counterparts during a Change of Command ceremony for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (center left), Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, passes the Engineer Colors to Col. Donald E. Degidio, Far East District incoming Commander, during a ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8. Col. Blair A. Schantz (left), outgoing Commander, and Jon Iwata, Deputy District Engineer, look on. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

assumed command.

“Command is perhaps the most significant achievement of an officer’s career,” said Stevens. “It is the ultimate vote of confidence by one’s superior officers. It is a job of immense personal satisfaction and, at times, unrelenting pressure.”

Stevens welcomed Degidio as a commander and, at the same time, thanked Schantz for his unwavering commitment to FED and its mission.

“He (Schantz) leaves behind a legacy of service, dedication, and achievement few could equal,” said Stevens. “But I can assure you he will never, never forget his pride in this organization and its people.”

Schantz has overseen billions of dollars worth of construction projects during his time as commander, but beyond that monumental task he has lead USACE’s only maneuver district through numerous contingency operations.

“The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has over 39,000 members in 45 districts around the world,” said Schantz. “But there is only one maneuver district, only one enduring district that defends freedom, day in and day out, directly in harm’s way.”

During the change of command ceremony, for the first time ever, Emergency Essential and Mission Essential personnel stood in formation beside their military counterparts.

“We are unique,” said Schantz. “We are one of the only organizations in Korea where U.S. civilians, Korean civilians, and U.S. military stand side by side to assist in the defense of the Korean Peninsula.”

Stevens presented Schantz with the Meritorious Service Medal for his service as FED Commander from July 2009 to July 2011.

In closing, Schantz reminded all FED team members for one last time that “the most important project in the District is the one you’re working on.”





FED leaders receive de Fleury Medals

FED Public Affairs

A total of 12 outstanding employees in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District were awarded the prestigious Bronze Order of the de Fleury, 2009-2011.

The de Fleury Medal is named after Capt. Francois de Fleury, a French Army engineer who served with the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. He was credited with capturing Stony Point, a strategic base on the Hudson River, which in turn changed the direction of the war in favor of the Colonies. For his actions, the Continental Congress awarded de Fleury a medal struck in his honor.

Likewise today, the de Fleury Medal is awarded to individuals who make vital decisions everyday that affects the mission of USACE.

The de Fleury Medal is administered by the Army Engineer Association, a nonprofit organization dedicated to

preserving the history and traditions of the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. The AEA adopted the de Fleury Medal for its special significance to Army engineers and its ties to both the beginnings of the nation and the Corps of Engineers.

On the obverse of the medal is the Latin inscription meaning “A Memorial and Reward for Courage and Boldness.” In the center appears the image of a helmeted soldier standing amidst the ruins of a fort, holding in his right hand an unsheathed sword, and in his left the staff of the enemy’s flag, which he tramples underfoot.

On the reverse, again in Latin, is the inscription “Fortifications, Marshes, Enemies Overcome.” In the center the fortress at Stony Point is depicted with both turrets and a flag flying. At the base of the hill are two shore batteries, one of which is firing at one of six vessels on the Hudson River. Beneath the fort is the legend, “Stony Point Carried by Storm, July 15, 1779.”



Harry Kim, Chief of the Contracting Division poses for a picture at his office.

Kim has held his current position as Chief of Contracting Division with FED since 1989. During that time he has been responsible of overseeing hundreds of contracts by FED. He was also recognized for his more than 50 years of service to the U.S. Government and the Corps of Engineers. He began with the government in 1952 as a volunteer in the U.S. Army where he served as an interpreter for visiting Korean officers to the U.S. during the Korean War. He left the Army after about two years to attend the University of Illinois majoring in Business Administration. During his junior year he returned to Korea to care for his ailing father and it was here that he was able to reenter Federal service by securing a job with the Korea Procurement Agency as a Special Assistant to the legal staff. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Curtis Heckelman, Chief of the Korea Program Relocation office looks over the relocation site of U. S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

Heckelman was recognized for his role as Chief of KPRO, a job that demands a significant amount of his time. The KRP is among USACE’s largest programs ever as it will relocate thousands of troops in and around Seoul to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. He represents the district commander at meetings, briefings, and conferences with military officials, Host Nation officials, and local authorities on matters relating to programs and projects. He began work with USACE in the Baltimore District as a project and resident engineer and, most recently, he worked in the Gulf Region North, Iraq, as Deputy District engineer and Chief of Programs and Project Management before his current position. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Mike Feighny(left), District Counsel and Jon Iwata, Deputy District Engineer are flying in a helicopter to USAG Humphreys.

Iwata is responsible for developing long range program management goals for FED as Deputy District Engineer. Without these goals the district's quality and effectiveness would be compromised.

Feighny has been involved in almost every significant legal matter affecting the Pacific Ocean Division and FED since 1991. He was FED District Counsel from November 1991 until 1995. From there he went to POD Headquarters in Hawaii where he played significant roles regarding legal issues in the reorganization of POD from an operating to an administrative division. He returned to FED in 2005 and has been a major player in the District's support of the Korea Transformation Program which includes Yongsan Relocation Program and the Land Partnership Plan. (FED File Photo)



(From left to right) Sam Adkins, Chief of FED Construction Division; Chief Master Sgt. Raymond Riel, Lead Construction Representative, Parcel 2 Resident Office; Kristen O'Grady, Assistant District Counsel; Col. Gordon Trounson, Deputy Director of the Korea Relocation Programs Office, and Maj. John Burescia, Project Engineer, Humphreys Area Office, were awarded the prestigious Bronze Order of the de Fleury Jan. 7 during the Far East District Commander's New Year's Reception.

Adkins was recognized for his 38 years of military and government service with the USACE. Throughout this time, he has served at every level of construction engineering.

Chief Master Sgt. Riel has 31 years of military service. During that time he has worked in locations such as Turkey, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Germany. These many assignments have established Riel as one of the most knowledgeable and diversified engineers in the U.S. Air Force.

O'Grady has served as an attorney in support of one of the largest construction projects in the history of USACE, the Korea Relocation Program. Her expertise has proven to be a vital asset to FED's mission.

Col. Trounson has supported the Yongsan Relocation Program and the Land Partnership plan during his two years with FED. Officially retired, Col. Trounson came back to active duty to support these programs which has earned him a reputation for excellence throughout the District.

Maj. Burescia was recognized for leadership, initiative, and selfless service throughout his ten-year career as an engineer officer. He has brought these same qualities with him to FED. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(From left to right) Robert Lau, Chief of Resource Management Office; Edward Minnerly, Chief of Logistics Management Office, and Joseph Campbell, Chief of Public Affairs Office, were awarded the prestigious Bronze Order of the de Fleury Feb. 17 during the 2011 Peninsula Engineer Conference.

Lau was recognized for his 27 years of service as a government civilian with USACE and his contributions to the Korea Relocation Program as resource manager.



(Continued from left)

Minnerly was recognized for his logistic role supporting FED throughout the Korean peninsula and logistic oversight of multi-billion dollar projects.

Campbell was recognized for his communications skills and remarkable ability to tell the engineer story. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Col. Schantz leaves legacy for FED

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Col. Blair A. Schantz may have said goodbye as Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District July 8, but he leaves behind a legacy that will endure for a long time.

“The most important project in the District is the one you are working on,” said Schantz repeatedly throughout his command.

The logo was even engraved on the District’s new coin, some of which have already been handed out by the new commander, Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

Schantz encouraged every member of FED to put all their effort into the project they were currently working on; whether it be a dormitory for 500 airmen at Kunsan Air Base, maintaining the District’s fleet of vehicles, or creating a sign to advertise Organizational Day.

The special emphasis and care that was placed on every project was recognized by FED’s customers and helped to move the organization from good to great.

During FED’s Change of Command Ceremony, Schantz paid tribute to the team that made all these great achievements happen.

“You may not remember what I have spoken about today but I know you will remember what you saw in the ceremony—the most dedicated and professional combined

team in Korea.”

Schantz also leaves behind a legacy of service and dedication to the District throughout his command from July 2009-July 2011. From here, his next assignment is to the National War College in Washington, D.C.



Col. Blair A. Schantz, outgoing Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, receives the Silver de Fleury Medal from Brig. Gen. Bruce Berwick (Ret.) during the 2011 U.S. Army Birthday Ball. (Photo by Joe Campbell)



Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (right), Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division presents Col. Blair A. Schantz, outgoing Far East District Commander with the Legion of Merit during a Change of Command ceremony for FED on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8. Schantz was presented the award for his service as FED Commander from July 2009 to July 2011. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



The Far East District also said farewell to Col. Blair A. Schantz (left) during the Farewell Reception June 29. Also departing from the District was Col. Gordon D. Trounson (right), Lt. Col. Robert F. Hynes (rear, center), Capt. Vincent Lee (center), and Master Sgt. Robert V. Lamoureux (rear, left). (Photo by Patrick Bray)



FED says farewell to Korea Program Relocation Office chief

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District said farewell to Curtis A. Heckelman, Chief, Korea Program Relocation Office, at a packed luncheon on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 6.

The farewell luncheon featured songs sung by FED members, a humorous skit by the KPRO interns, and an unexpected phone call from Boise, Idaho by Col. Gordon Trounson, former KPRO Deputy Director.

Heckelman was touched by the performance and the number of people who attended. He thanked all of them in his farewell speech but also made a few remarks about the program he worked on for the past three years.

“This program is truly more of an art than an application of science or engineering,” said Heckelman.

Heckelman, who is a philosopher as much as he is an engineer, admits that it is hard to put into exact words his time working with KPRO. A few days later, while he was relaxing in his “Zen” pool at his apartment, he thought of words of advice that his grandfather, Vernie Emil Schultz, had given him while growing up on his farm in Ohio.

“There are two kinds of people in the world, those who do the work and those who take the credit. You should be the one who does the work. There are far fewer of you so the competition is much less,” said Heckelman.

Throughout his time with KPRO, the program has re-

ceived numerous awards and acclamations. Heckelman has even won a few awards himself, but has always given credit to the KPRO team saying that it is their award as much as it is his.

Most recently Heckelman was the 2010 Lt. Gen. Raymond A. Wheeler Award winner. This award is sponsored by the Society of American Military Engineers and was presented at the SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference in Grapevine, Texas May 27.

Heckelman was more than happy to accept the award on behalf of the entire KPRO team while he shared a thought provoking quote by Theodore Roosevelt.

“The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

Heckelman will be leaving FED for the Philadelphia District in August.



The Korea Program Relocation Office interns tease their boss, Curtis Heckelman (center), by dressing up like him during Heckelman's farewell luncheon July 6. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Curtis Heckelman, Chief of the Korea Program Relocation Office stands by in a helicopter to fly to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. (FED File Photo)



Fire Station opens at Chinhae

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District along with personnel from the U.S. Navy cut the ribbon on a new fire station at Fleet Activities Chinhae May 20.

It was a rainy day in Chinhae, but it did not stop about 50 people from attending the ceremony.

“It’s always a great day when we get to turn over a new facility,” said Sam Adkins, Chief of FED Construction Division.

Rear Adm. Peter Gumataotao, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea, also expressed why it was a great day.

“Over the past four years this station has answered the call at least 10 times a month,” said Gumataotao. “These brave firefighters deserve this new facility.”

The new facility has much more space for both firefighters and trucks than the old fire station, which was over 25 years old. Work began on this new fire station December 2009 by Shinsaegye Construction Co., Ltd.

Constructed by the Republic of Korea using host nation

funding, Col. Han Bong-wan, Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense, Defense Installation Agency, presented the master key to the fire station to Gumataotao

“This new fire station has been constructed by the Republic of Korea Government and provided to Fleet Activities Chinhae for the ROK and U.S. combined defense,” said Han.

The fire station is also a new symbol of the partnership between the naval base and the City of Chinhae. Fire Chief Kim Jong-gil from the Chinhae Fire Department was present to congratulate the naval base fire department on their new building. Both departments pledged their mutual support in maintaining public safety in Chinhae.

Following the ceremony, Cmdr. Don Murray, Commander Fleet Activities Chinhae, rang the fire bell for the first time. The firefighters put on their helmets, the engine turned on its lights, and the new fire station’s operations officially began.



The new fire station at Fleet Activities Chinhae has much more space for both firefighters and trucks than the old fire station, which was over 25 years old. The facility was constructed by Shinsaegye Construction Co., Ltd. using host nation funding. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Far East District cuts ribbon on Gimcheon facility

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District cut the ribbon on a new facility for the Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services Field Activity at Gimcheon April 1.

The new facility north of Daegu was designed to consolidate DLA operations at Bupyong in the northwest and Busan in the southeast to one central area. The new site is located between U.S. Forces Korea's two largest enduring hubs: Pyongtaek and Daegu.

The Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense funded the project for approximately \$25 million as part of its relocation program for U.S. bases.

"This project shows the unique partnership in place with the Korean Government," said Sam Adkins, Chief of FED Construction Division. "Through the Land Partnership Program, U.S. forces are able to get much needed facilities."

Pak Bo-saeng, Mayor of Gimcheon City welcomed DLA to their new neighborhood. He also congratulated FED for a successful project.

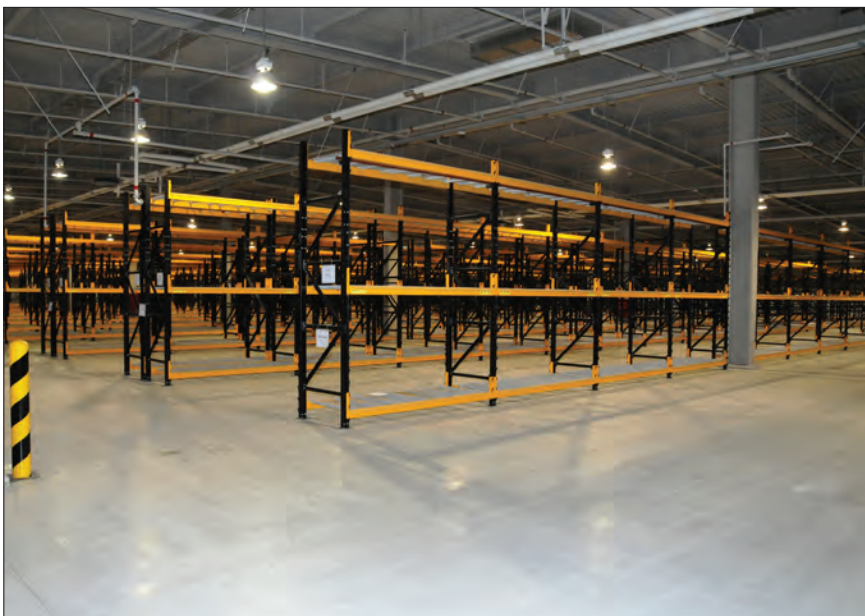
The complex was built by Daelim Industries Co, Ltd. beginning in February 2007 and was completed in July 2010. Since then, DLA has consolidated its operations and relocated employees to Gimcheon.

The modern complex provides 117,513 square feet of covered warehouse space, 484,468 square feet of outside stor-

age space and 9,484 square feet of administrative space.

It consists of a main building with office space, training room, break room, and warehouse space; a demilitarization building where military equipment is destroyed and turned into scrap steel; and a material handling building which stores equipment parts.

The onsite railhead and scale house allows property to be shipped and received saving the user significant dollars and manpower in its new location.



Above: (From left to right) Sam Adkins, Chief of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Construction Division, Col. Kathleen Gavle, Commander of U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, Twila Gonzales, Director of Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services, and Pak Bo-saeng, Mayor of Gimcheon City cut the ribbon together on a new facility for the DLA Disposition Services Field Activity at Gimcheon April 1.

Left: Right now these shelves are empty but soon they will be filled with various types of equipment for reuse or recycle. The DLA Disposition Services Field Activity at Gimcheon opened April 1. (Photos by Patrick Bray)

Ground broken on long awaited commissary

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

K-16 Airfield, which sits right outside of the Seoul city limit, has been in use by U.S. Forces Korea for decades but has always been without a commissary.

Soldiers have to commute to U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan for their commissary needs, but this will no longer be the situation about a year from now. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, broke ground on a new commissary for K-16 March 22.

“Today the soldiers at K-16 spend an average of about three hours round trip to make it to Yongsan to the commissary. That’s if they wait for the bus to pick them up and bring them back here and then only what they can carry in their hands for the trip. That’s certainly not what is needed,” said Brig. Gen. Kelly Thomas, 2nd Infantry Division Assistant Division Commander for Support.

Considering the long commute and that most of the soldiers at K-16 are without their own transportation, many of them have decided to not shop at the commissary. Instead they line up at the local AAFES shoppette.

“I surveyed 30 items at the shoppette here and compared

them to the commissary at Yongsan,” said Larry Lyons, Chief, K-16 Airfield Directorate of Public Works. “I was not surprised the commissary’s cost for goods was about 30 percent less than the shoppette.”

The construction of a commissary is on line with the USFK command priority number three; “Improve Quality of Life for the USFK Community.”

The K-16 community has always wanted better access to a commissary. At first, they had hoped that an older building could be renovated into a commissary. FED is giving them more than they hoped for by constructing a new facility from the ground up.

About 200 soldiers, civilians, and family members turned out for the groundbreaking ceremony for the much anticipated commissary that will help save time and money.

“I go to a lot of groundbreaking and I have never seen so many people at one of these before,” said Col. Blair A. Schantz, Commander of FED. “That really tells me how important this project is to all of you. Thank you for being here.”

The facility, scheduled to be completed April 2012, will be about 8,100 square feet and will have all of the amenities found in any other commissary throughout Korea including cold and freeze storage, electronic checkout area, parking, sidewalks, and canopy.



Representatives from the various organizations who played a part in bringing a commissary to K-16 Airfield prepare to break ground on the new facility March 22. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

UNION SPOT LIGHT

Introduction of FED Korean Employees Union

First of all, I would like to thank Col. Degidio for the opportunity to introduce FED Sub-Chapter, USFK Korean Employees Union.

Our FED Sub-Chapter is an organization consisting of 240 Korean Nationals out of a total 252 Korean nationals with FED and performs the following roles as a sub-chapter of USFK Korean Employees Union:

1. To protect Korean Nationals' Rights and to improve employees' welfare
2. To minimize and prevent any possible friction between managers and employees and to resolve workplace issues through close cooperation
3. To seek ways to improve Korean Nationals' working conditions and environment
4. To solidify unity among Korean Nationals and to increase efficiency through close coordination among Korean nationals

Lastly, we strongly support the ROK-US Alliance and strive to create a sustainable and secure workplace environment through high quality and effective accomplishment of our Engineering mission.

극동공병분회 소개

저희 극동공병분회(FED Sub-Chapter, USFK Korean Employees Union)를 소개할 수 있는 기회를 주신 신임 사령관, 디지디오 대령님께 우선 감사를 드립니다.

저희 극동공병분회는 한국인 직원 총 252명 중 240명이 가입된 조직입니다. 주한 미군노조 분회로 아래와 같은 역할을 하고 있습니다.

1. 한국인 조합원의 기본권리를 수호하고, 복리증진을 목적으로 하고 있으며,
2. 관리자와 협조를 통해 조합원과의 마찰 예방 및 분쟁을 최소화하고 문제해결에 적극 대응하며,
3. 조합원의 근로조건 및 근무환경 개선 방안을 모색하고,
4. 조합원 간의 결속력을 다져 업무 협조를 통한 효율적 업무수행을 목표로 하고 있으며,

마지막으로, 극동공병단의 질 높은 임무 완수를 통해 한미 동맹에 기여하며 지속적이고 안정적인 직장 환경을 만들고자 노력하고 있습니다.



EEO CORNER

By Tamara Watts-Stephens
FED Equal Employment Opportunity

Why is it essential to have diversity for the overall success of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District?

Diversity is not just about the skin color, facial features, or physical characteristics; diversity is also related to people's experiences, education, personality, abilities, etc., and the people are the base of the Corps. With a diverse work force, the Corps can be effective, keep our values and reputation, and stay competitive.

Second issue diversity allows us to communicate with the multicultural people we serve. With many cultures working in the Corps, it enables us to serve the outside society whether we are in Japan, Korea, Guam, etc.

Also, diversity encourages managers and supervisors

to gain new methods in leading their team. When watching over a team of people with different backgrounds, managing can be difficult, but if done well, the employees will be more productive and successful than a team comprised of people from like backgrounds.

Lastly, diversity in a work force prevents solutions from being dull and uninspired. Diversity brings in different ideas from different groups and personalities that lead to creative solutions for projects and services.

As we move forward, it is essential to continue on incorporating diversity in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, in order to progress successfully with our projects and services as we have done in the past.

West Point Society honors Gen. Sharp

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs



The West Point Society of Korea hosted the 2011 Founders Day Reception May 14 as an opportunity for U.S. Military Academy graduates to come together and renew old acquaintances on the anniversary of the founding of West Point.

This year's reception, at the Dragon Hill Lodge on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, was in honor of Gen. Walter L. "Skip" Sharp for his service to the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance and his upcoming retirement from active duty.

Sharp is the commander of the U.N. Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea, so it can be said that he is accustomed to wearing many "hats." He also wore another two "hats" during the reception as he was the guest speaker and the oldest graduate.

"You get a two-for-one tonight," said Sharp. "Not only the oldest grad but also the guest speaker, but you're only getting one speech and it will be the old grad speech."

The old grad speech is a tradition that is usually intended to be comical by making fun of how the "Corps has" become progressively easier year after year for the Corps of Cadets at West Point.

"I am going to talk a little bit about how I think the 'Corps has' and the changes that have happened since I graduated in 1974," said Sharp.

As expected, Sharp joked about some of the younger graduates in attendance, such as 2nd Lt. Michael Migliaro, class of 2010. All in good nature, Migliaro said previously that Sharp was issued a "slide ruler" and might have been present at the founding of West Point.

"You can really tell a new grad because they have never heard of slide rulers," said Sharp. "Now only the old people in here will understand that they weren't called slide rulers. They are called slide rules."

Later, Sharp and Migliaro would cut the Founders Day cake together as the oldest and youngest graduate respectively.

Throughout the night, Sharp talked about West Point memories and Army-Navy football games, but also took the opportunity to recognize the new graduates. He thanked them for their service, reminding everyone that "Corps has" speeches are all in good fun.

"All kidding aside, when we look closely at each one of



Lt. Col. Robert F. Hynes (center), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Deputy Commander, and Cpt. Vincent Lee (left), FED Executive Officer, coordinated the West Point Society of Korea 2011 Founders Day Reception May 14. The society honored Gen. Walter L. "Skip" Sharp, Commander of the U.N. Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea at the Dragon Hill Lodge on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Cpt. Vincent Lee (right), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Executive Officer, presents framed photos to Gen. Walter L. "Skip" Sharp (left), commander of the U.N. Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea. The photos are of various events hosted by the West Point Society of Korea in which Sharp was in attendance. The society honored Sharp at the Dragon Hill Lodge on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan May 14. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

the graduating classes, we still see all the shared experiences, the struggles, and remember all that the Long Gray Line has gone through,” said Sharp.

This annual West Point tradition has been ongoing since the Civil War. The reception in honor of Sharp was coordinated by Lt. Col. Robert F. Hynes and Cpt. Vincent Lee of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District and both West Point graduates.

When all the festivities were complete, Lee was convinced that the society had given Sharp his well deserved farewell.

“The mission was accomplished with an outrageously entertaining evening that was both festive and light-hearted, all while commemorating Gen. Sharp’s last Founders Day while on active duty,” said Lee. “We also honored his unwavering and steadfast leadership of those that serve this great nation and the ROK – U.S. Alliance.”

At the end of the night Sharp led the attendees in singing the West Point Alma Mater and shouted “Go Army! Beat Navy!”



Corps of Engineers receives Army Superior Unit Award



By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was presented the Army Superior Unit Award May 3 for mission execution during fiscal years 2006 through 2010. All USACE subordinate commands, to include the Far East District, are authorized to carry the ASU streamer on their Corps of Engineers flag.

The Far East District held an award ceremony June 29 where Col. Blair A. Schantz, FED Commander, hung the Army Superior Unit streamer on the District colors. Military and civilian employees were pinned with the ASU ribbon and lapel pin respectively.

“We earned this for all that we did collectively in Iraq, Afghanistan, and here in Korea in support of the defense of

the United States,” said Schantz. “It’s a very prestigious award and not all units get it.”

Schantz also mentioned that he was not aware of any other joint military and civilian unit previous to now receiving such an award.

“To me what’s special about this is that we’re not only going to pin a permanent award on the military members, but the civilians will also have lapel pins,” said Schantz.

The award was presented to USACE by Gen. Martin Dempsey, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, at the retirement ceremony for Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, outgoing Chief of Engineers, at Fort McNair, in Washington, D.C.



Col. Blair A. Schantz, previous Commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, hangs the Army Superior Unit streamer on the District colors during a ceremony June 29. USACE was awarded the streamer for its mission execution during fiscal years 2006-2010. (Photo by O Sang-song)



Col. Blair A. Schantz, previous Commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, pins the Army Superior Unit Award ribbon on Sgt. 1st Class Katherine Yum, Operations NCO for the Korea Program Relocation Office, during a ceremony June 29. (Photo by O Sang-song)



Far East District Employee shares home with Korean student

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Forces Korea Good Neighbor Program English Camp was held May 15-21. During the week, 66 Korean students had an opportunity to live and go to school with U.S. families.

“The USFK Good Neighbor Program English Camp at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan is the command’s top youth outreach program, which impacts the lives of Korea’s future leaders,” said Gen. Walter L. Sharp, USFK Commander. “This youth outreach program is designed to positively impact those future leaders by introducing them to USFK and its mission and role through organized, interactive, and educational activities.”

Brenda Dunwoody, Legal Technician at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Office of Counsel, hosted one of the students.

Tak Hyo-jun, an 18-year-old high school student from Busan, had never experienced American culture before. So, on his first night with the Dunwoody family Tak was offered a meal that is not very common in Korea.

“We wanted him to have a purely American meal so we

made Sloppy Joes,” said Dunwoody.

Dunwoody looks back on that night with laughter and fond memories as Tak thought that she was trying to make hamburgers and had somehow ruined them. At first he was not sure what he was eating, but after one bite he was hooked.

“He liked them so much that he ate four of them. Then he ate the left over sauce from the pan,” said Dunwoody.

Successful introductions to USFK families like this are what the camp is all about. It also helps students improve their English skills through total emersion. Although English as a subject is taught at just about every Korean school, very few students ever get the opportunity to use it in a realistic setting.

Dunwoody’s son, Connor, took Tak to the movies with their friends. Although many American movies are available in Korea, at the theater on USAG Yongsan there are no Korean subtitles.

Tak can speak English but no more than a few sentences at a time. However, it did not take long for Connor and Tak



Tak Hyo-jun, an 18-year-old high school student from Busan enjoys pizza at an event on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan. Tak spent a week with Brenda Dunwoody, Legal Technician at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Office of Counsel, and her family during the U.S. Forces Korea Good Neighbor Program English Camp May 15-21. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Connor Dunwoody (center), son of Brenda Dunwoody, Legal Technician at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Office of Counsel, teaches a Korean student how to give a double high-five after a sporting event on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan. Tak Hyo-jun (left), an 18-year-old high school student from Busan spent a week with the Dunwoody family during the U.S. Forces Korea Good Neighbor Program English Camp May 15-21. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

to overcome the language difference and become friends.

“Kids are kids no matter what language they speak or what country they live in,” said Dunwoody. “They somehow learn to communicate and find a common ground, something I think adults could learn from them.”

During the day the students’ activities consisted of attending class at Seoul American High School, field trips to the DMZ and ROKS Cheonan, and tours of U.S. installations where they interacted with U.S. service members. There was also a sports day and picnic with their host families and a graduation ceremony at the end of the week.

At night, Dunwoody offered Tak ways to unwind from this busy schedule but to continue to learn about American family life.

“We spent time introducing him to American board

games, video games, and movies,” said Dunwoody.

On Tak’s last night before his departure the Dunwoody family had a pizza party and video game night.

“Several of the other host teenagers and their Korean exchange students came to participate in the fun,” said Dunwoody. “They played Rock Band, laughed, ate pizza, drank soda, and shared common teenage laughter at it all.”

Tak had a great week during the English camp and in the end he invited his new friends to Busan to spend time with his family.

“Both boys found out that although they are from different cultures that they are not all that different from each other,” said Dunwoody.



Air Force Cadets visit Far East District

Cadets from the U.S. Air Force Academy and Air Force ROTC attending summer camp at Osan Air Base visited the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Central Resident Office May 17. Although cadets come to Osan annually during the summer, this year was the first time that they were able to visit FED. Bruce Kim, CRO Resident Engineer, briefed the cadets using USACE 101, a slideshow designed to give those without experience with the Corps of Engineers an overview of the Corps and its projects. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Boy Scouts visit FED Geotechnical lab



A local Boy Scout from the Far East Council, Troop 88 looks at soil samples through a microscope in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Geotechnical Lab. The Boy Scout troop visited FED Feb. 22 as part of Seoul American High School’s Engineer Week. (Photo by Patrick Bray)





Building and designing the future

By Youhjung Son
FED Public Affairs Summer Hire

Set up with booths showing seismographs to surveying technologies, the Seoul American High School library was bustling with students and teachers gathering around the booth tables at Engineers Day held May 20.

Each year the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District holds Engineers Day, an all-day event for the high school students. Practicing engineers and scientists from FED present technical demonstrations of different tasks and practices in everyday situations, focusing on U.S. military installation work in South Korea and other countries.

“Our Engineers Day event at Seoul American High School (SAHS), given on an annual basis since 1997, provides a unique opportunity for students to learn what practicing engineers and scientists do in their chosen professions,” said Doug Bliss, Chief of FED Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch.

This year, new subjects were brought up for a fresh and interesting turn.

“We try to make the Engineers Day presentations both interesting and relevant to the student, which is why this year we added discussions on seismology, earthquakes, tsunamis, and nuclear power plants.”

The engineers and scientists’ effort to engage the students drew an enthusiastic response.

“The students gain an awareness of the valuable contributions engineers do to our communities and the Nation, and hopefully some students are further motivated to consider a career in engineering or the sciences. Every year we get a great response from the students and the teachers attending the event. SAHS considers this to be a very valuable educational experience for the students.”

Engineers Day has evolved since its inception. In the beginning it was more like a museum exhibit but it later



Given the opportunity to interact with professionals and get hands on with equipment on Engineers Day on May 20, a Seoul American High School student puts on a gas mask for the first time with the help of the booth demonstrator, Sarah Woo, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District. (Photo by Youhjung Son)

became more interactive.

“I have been organizing Engineers Day from the very beginning of the event,” Bliss said. “Engineers Day actually started in 1997 during National Engineers Week, when we set up static displays on engineering subjects and projects in the Dragon Hotel lobby. I then had discussions with Seoul American High School on the value of holding the event over at the school, with practicing engineers and scientists giving presentations as a more stimulating format than unmanned static displays. We have a group of very talented and enthusiastic volunteers at the District who take time out of their busy schedules to put on Engineers Day.”

Using their own time and effort, the engineers and scientists know that the results will be worthwhile.

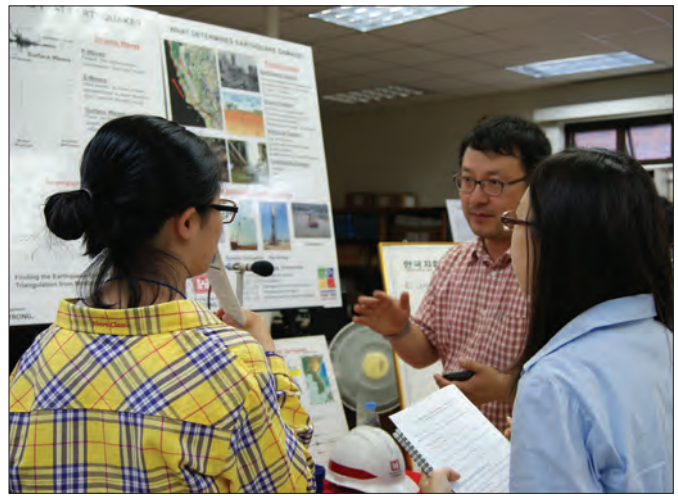
“Our pay back is the knowledge that our hands-on presentation may have a positive impact on the future education and chosen career path for the students.”

Because of the school and FED’s busy schedules, Engineers Day was rescheduled from National Engineers Week (Feb. 20-26) to May. This change allowed the Engineers Day to coincide with the Good Neighbor English Camp program taking place at the school. Students from Korean high schools were able to experience and have an opportunity to discover the professional field of engineering.

“At my school, we don’t have many big events like this,”



Seoul American High School senior Judith Park (right) and her Korean student partner Kim Hyo-eom (middle) from Mokdong High School listen to the demonstration at the Personal Protective Equipment booth during Engineers Day, May 20. Kim is a participant in the annual U.S. Forces Korea Good Neighbor English Camp program. (Photo by Youhjung Son)



Seoul American High School students at the Seismology (Earthquakes) booth on Engineers Day on May 20 listen to the demonstrator, Pak Song-hyon, explaining the answers to their questions. (Photo by Youhjung Son)

said Korean student Kim Hyo-eom from Mokdong High School. “This Engineers Day is new for me. This is my first time seeing professionals come to school and interact with the students in this way. Going around the booths and listening to the engineers was very interesting. I wish we had this kind of event at our school but it’s great that the Engineer’s Day happened during the English Camp program and we were able to experience this.”

Along with the Korean students, 12th grade SAHS student Eric Tarikas also had an enlightening and educational opportunity.

“It helps everyone see what engineers actually do in the real world,” Tarikas said. “We know what an engineer is but do we really know what they do? Here, we get to see what every type of engineer does and get a real life perspective on how they live and what their everyday life and job is like. It shows the fun side, the cool parts of engineering.”

Tarikas went on to say that while learning from the engineers, the experience was a helpful exploration in deciding for his future path.

“My father is an engineer and I know what he does but I don’t get to see what everyone else does. Personally I like to see what everyone else does and discover the different aspects of engineering, not just one part. Even though I am not sure what career path I will pursue, this definitely helps me – it opens my eyes to the various options I have for my future.”



Far East District continues to reach out to local schools in Pyongtaek

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District's Good Neighbor Program hosted two "Kids in Hard Hats" events in April.

Students from Songwha Elementary School and Buyong Elementary School in Pyongtaek located near U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys were given the rare opportunity to learn from FED engineers about the huge construction and expansion project from the inside.

Col. Gordon Trounson, Deputy Director of the Korea Program Relocation Office, represented the District Commander to Songwha Elementary School April 6. He gave the students a slideshow briefing about construction at USAG Humphreys which included a fly-over video.

"During the briefing that Col. Trounson and the engineers conducted, I learned a lot about the relocation, as well as my students. I'm really looking forward to seeing completed projects soon. I'm sure when they are completed it will be also beneficial to Koreans living in Pyongtaek," said Songwha Principal Seo Hyang-yeol.

Trounson took the students to an overlook site so they could see firsthand the progress of the expansion.



Warrant Officer Susan Bostick, Logistics Operations Officer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, looks at a book with students from Buyong Elementary School April 13. FED donated the books to the school as part of its "Kids in Hard Hats" Good Neighbor Program. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

“The size of the expanding land amazed me,” said Seo. “I really appreciate the Far East District for giving my students this valuable opportunity to get on post and see the installation under construction.”

Trounson presented 800 English books to the school on behalf of the entire district. Songwha is one of the largest elementary schools adjacent to USAG Humphreys with over 650 students and 50 faculty members. They had been trying to establish an English section in their library for a long time.

“The English books that we received today will fill the school library and help my students become more interested in English study,” said Seo. “I hope FED can provide more students a chance to have this kind of experience in the future and support the school’s English classes.”

The majority of the books were donated to the District’s Good Neighbor Program by Seoul American High School’s National Honor Society. Since 2009 the NHS has collected over 5,000 books for this program. Other books have been donated by Second Hand Rose Gift Shop located on USAG Yongsan’s South Post and District employees.

Of course, the “Kids in Hard Hats” program also offers the students the opportunity to have fun during their visit. They scaled the climbing wall at the Zoeckler Station Gym and enjoyed lunch at the Red Dragon Inn dining facility. Even the engineers had an enjoyable experience.

“The Good Neighbor Program is an excellent opportunity for furthering our strong alliance,” said Trounson. “It is much more than just showing these students the Korea Relocation Program. It is to let them know that they are an important part for the future of our two countries’ common goal of peace and prosperity for the Korean peninsula.”

After being with FED for about a year and a half, Trounson will be leaving Korea soon. During his tour of duty he has participated in numerous Good Neighbor Programs and events, including “Kids in Hard Hats.”

Songwha may be Trounson’s last Good Neighbor event, but for Warrant Officer Susan Bostick, FED Logistics Operations Officer, it was her first.

“Those kids were thrilled to be here [at Humphreys],” said Bostick. “This program definitely put a smile on their faces.”

The experience with Songwha Elementary School paid off for Bostick because a week later she represented the District Commander during the next Good Neighbor event with Buyong Elementary School, but she did not mind doing it all over again.

“I had just as much fun as the kids did,” said Bostick.

Even the teachers at Buyong had fun and they all attempted to climb the climbing wall in the gym along with their students.

“Thanks to FED’s hard work my students and the school staff had a wonderful time,” said Seo Hyeong-seok, an English Teacher at Buyong. “We are taking a valuable experience and memories back with us. This visit helped us understand what’s going on inside the base in our neighborhood.”

Just like at Songwha, the students and faculty from Buyong were presented 800 books from FED.

“The books presented today will be a great asset to the school and will help my students a lot when they study English,” said Seo. “I really appreciate all of you who donated books and welcomed us so warmly.”



A student from Songwha Elementary School makes it to the top of the climbing wall at the Zoeckler Station Gym April 6. The students were invited to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District’s “Kids in Hard Hats” Good Neighbor Program. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Students from Songwha Elementary School enjoy lunch in the Red Dragon Inn dining facility April 6. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



My summer vacation with FED

By Tiffaney Mitchell

FED Public Affairs Summer Hire



On June 20, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District welcomed a summer hire named Tiffaney Mitchell.

Once summer begun, I chose to start out my summer vacation by applying to the Summer Hire program, but some of my friends told me, “Why are you working? You could be having fun with us or going on vacation!” But, I wanted to do something productive during my summer; something that may benefit me for the future. Instead of the typical summer of sleeping more than usual, shopping all day and night, swimming in the blazing sun, taking pictures of things you want to remember, watching many movies, or having all the fun anyone could have, I decided to try something new: working eight hours a day for four weeks. My first day of work approached and I was anxious of what I would be doing from now till the end of my session.

At the introduction meeting, the one lady told me I would be working at the FED compound. I was familiar with the area because I have been there a couple times with my mother. But, what made me real curious is what division I would be working with. Then come to find out, once departed from the theatre, I would be working with the Public Affairs Office. Within my junior year, I took classes in photography and in Yearbook so I became familiar with Adobe Photoshop and using a camera. Then I thought to myself, “Working with the Public Affairs Office shouldn’t be that hard.” But, at the time I didn’t know what to expect.

Arriving to the compound, I was amazed by what I would actually be doing. First off, there were numerous books sitting on desks waiting to be packaged. Once looking through the boxes of the books, they seemed quite familiar. The books were donated to FED from the National Honor Society for the Good Neighbor program. For two years I have been a member of the National Honor Society at Seoul American High School and one of the National Honor Society’s tasks was to collect and help donate these books.

Multiple tasks were given for me to complete throughout the month I had with Public Affairs Office. Slide shows, picture taking, and even attending farewells or change of commands were all important. Most of my friends just work or sit around in an office, but that was not how my job functioned. At times I was on the computer finishing up the slide shows or other work and other times I would be roaming around the compound getting things done. I can say the month went by pretty fast and was filled with a lot of busy days. At the time that I have worked with PAO, I attended four farewell

ceremonies and two Change of Command ceremonies. It was a great experience for me plus, I learned many new things.

Throughout the four weeks that I have had with PAO, I met a lot of people, took many pictures of certain significant days, made slide shows for the farewell ceremonies, and helped out with organizing the books. Working at FED PAO, the time felt short and went by too fast. But I believe that I have learned a lot and seen new things that I could be familiar with in the future.



Tiffaney Mitchell, FED Public Affairs Summer Hire, takes pictures during a Change of Command ceremony. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Tiffaney Mitchell, FED Public Affairs Summer Hire, receives a coin from Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. FED Commander after the Change of Command ceremony, July 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Col. Don Degidio Far East District



My Plan

I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- Leading a Great District
- Caring for People
- Building Relationships and Teamwork



My Face

I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Loving the Lord with all my Heart
- Loving my wife Donna of 24 years and my wonderful son Dakota (16 years old)
- Serving 24 years in our U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

From the Commander

Thank you for doing great things:



Master Sgt. Robert Lamoureux for outstanding support of a Change of Command ceremony. (FED File Photo)



Ko Min-sok for outstanding support of a Change of Command ceremony. (FED File Photo)



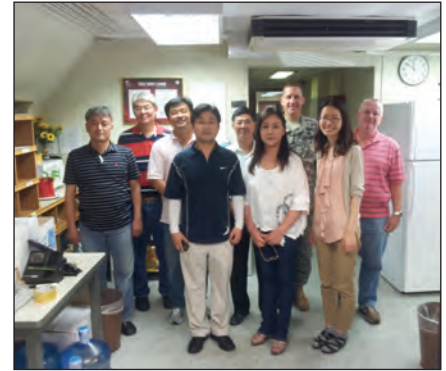
Jisun Kang for outstanding support of a Change of Command ceremony. (FED File Photo)



Weon Jun for his hard work and dedication to the Area I and II projects. (FED File Photo)



Inhui Spann for her hard work and dedication to the Area I and II projects. (FED File Photo)



Northern Resident Office for all of the hard work going on in Area I and II. (FED File Photo)



Cho Chong-chu for excellence in Resource Management. (FED File Photo)



Staff Sgt. Edward Forbes for dedication to the district. (FED File Photo)



Southern Resident Office for all of the hard work going on in Area IV. (FED File Photo)

Welcome to FED



*Cho Un-chong
Construction*



*Cho Yong-ho
Engineering*



*Clark, Yong W.
Construction*



*DeFerro, John A.
Engineering*



*George, Tracy D.
Executive Office*



*Harrison, Dawn
Construction*



*Kim, Seong H.
Engineering*



*Kim Yong-sik
Information Management*



*Randall-Allen, Laponcer
Contracting*



*Smith, Roger
Construction*



*Shelton, Cleveland
Construction*



*Sok Yong-un
Engineering*



*Sudhoff, Richard K
Construction*



*Taylor, Jeffrey W.
Construction*



*Thieleman, Martin A.
Information Management*



*Washington, Shawn L.
Workforce Management*



*Yi Min-ho
Engineering*



*Yim So-young
Resource Management*



*Col. Johnson, Craig
Korea Program Relocation*



*Lt. Col. Baisch, Gregory
Executive Office*

See You Again...



*Ahlen, Karl T.
Korea Program Relocation*



*Cade, Jason
Construction*



*Choe Tae-chin
Logistics Management*



*Fontanilla, Richard
Construction*



*Heckelman, Curtis
Korea Program Relocation*



*Kim Chong-ho
Information Management*



*Kim Kwang-nam
Engineering*



*Kim Kwang-ung
Logistics Management*



*Ma Sok-ku
Resource Management*



*Shin, Dong K.
Construction*



*So Chae-su
Construction*



*Stubbert, Carl
Contracting*



*Sung, Michele
Programs & Project
Management*



*Toves, Mihui K.
Contracting*



*Yared, Beshara
Korea Program Relocation*



*Yi Pyong-u
Engineering*



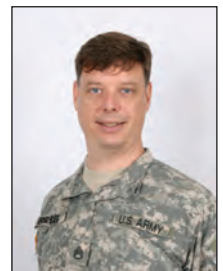
*Col. Trounson, Gordon
Korea Program Relocation*



*Cpt. Lee, Vincent
Executive Office*



*Master Sgt. Lamoureux,
Robert
Emergency Management*



*Staff Sgt. Forbes, Edward
Logistics Management*



사령관 메시지

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

최고의 극동공병단 팀과 모든 팀에게,

대한민국의 극동공병단 사령관으로써 복무할 수 있는 기회를 갖게 된 것에 진심으로 감사를 드립니다. 극동공병단은 세계에서 가장 크고 다이내믹하며 가장 도전적인 프로그램을 수행하고 있는 가장 프로다운 존경받는 공병단 중 하나입니다.

한국에 부임해서 임무를 수행하는 동안 극동공병단 여러분과 일했던 경험을 통해, 저는 제가 팀웍의 중요성을 알고 태평양 사단, 미육군, 합동군, 양국 합동 팀의 핵심적 일원임을 감사할 줄 아는 조직과 함께하게 되었다는 것을 잘 알고 있습니다.

제가 부임하고 처음 나온 *East Gate Edition* 을 통해 몇 가지 생각을 여러분과 함께 나누고 싶습니다.

우리 극동공병단은 공학 및 건설 에이전트로서 한반도에서 고객을 위해 봉사하는 것을 매우 자랑스럽게 생각하는 헌신적인 전문인들로 구성된 팀입니다. 지속가능성을 주원칙으로 하며, 우리 팀은 우리 군인들이 훈련하고 일하며, 또한 그들의 가족들이 사는 군시설 건설을 위해 열심히 일할 것입니다. 미합중국과 대한민국 그리고 고객들에 대한 우리의 서약은 계속해서 신뢰하고 선택할 만한 가치가 있게 하는 것입니다. 우리 동료들에게 우리의 서약은 DMZ 에서 한반도 남쪽 끝 부산까지 어디든 언제든지 지원을 계속하겠다는 것입니다.

우리 직원들에게는 고요한 아침의 나라에서 긍정적이고 생산적으로 일할 수 있는 일터를 만들어주어야 합니다. 전문적으로 훈련되고, 실무에 능숙하며, 말과 행동에 숙련된 조직. “한반도에서의 강한 건설”을 가능하게 만드는 것은 바로 여러분입니다. 여러분의 사령관으로써 일할 수 있게 해주신 것에 다시 한번 감사를 드립니다. 앞으로 여러분 한분 한분을 모두 만나고 인사를 나누며 함께 일할 것을 고대합니다. 저는 사람과 관계를 가장 중요하게 생각하며, 그것이야말로 바로 우리 공병단의 초석입니다.

우리 고객에게 극동공병단은 고객에게 봉사하며 항상 준비되어 있고 변화하는 환경에 적절히 대응하기위해 존재하는 것입니다. 이것을 마음에 품고 믿으면, 극동공병단은 해낼 수 있습니다. 우리는 미국과 대한민국의 역사에 있어 기념비적인 시점에서 있습니다. 우리는 그 역사의 한 부분이 되고자 합니다. 극동공병단은 이러한 변화의 시점에 - 최고의 관계를 형성하고 - 신뢰할 수 있고, 투명하며, 적시에 필요한 공병단으로써 봉사하고자 합니다. 그것이 우리의 약속입니다.

우리의 훌륭한 대한민국 파트너들께 저는 여러분이 목표달성, 공기준수, 예산준수에 있어서 최상의 일꾼이라는 것을 확신시킬 수 있습니다. 앞으로 한반도에서의 친환경 녹색 건설을 통한 환경 지킴이가 되기위해 여러분과 함께 일할 것을 고대합니다. 우리의 미래와 한반도에서 살며 일하고 있는 사람들을 위해 반드시 그렇게 해야만 합니다.

진심으로 우리 모두 같이 갑시다!

Building Strong in Korea!
Col. Don Degidio



Walk Aware & Walk Away

Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow!

**Never assume drivers can see you
or will stop for you.**

**Remember to make eye contact with drivers to ensure
they see you. Don't take a walk signal, a green traffic light,
or a driver for granted. Crossing safely is your
responsibility. Remember, it's up to you.**



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**

